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# HOWNIIKAN

Nmébnegises (March 2013)

*People of the Fire*

## Citizen Potawatomi Nation Women, Infant and Children program opens new location

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation recently moved its Women, Infant and Children program to a new 4,000 square foot building. The additional space will allow CPN WIC to continue to provide supplemental food and nutrition services to participants in a more comfortable and confidential atmosphere.

“This new building was much needed to improve our current services and to add more services as the needs of our communities change and grow,” said Linda Capps, Vice Chairman, Citizen Potawatomi Nation. “This program makes our communities stronger by providing nutrition services and support to the mothers and children who live here.”

The program was previously located in 1,500 square

foot office in the corner of FireLake Discount Foods, which limited the services and confidentiality for participants.

“We have expanded our services, but have never expanded our office space,” said Shelley Schneider, Director, CPN WIC. “This new building will allow us to keep our existing services, introduce additional services and increase participant confidentiality and that will be beneficial for the mothers and children in our communities.”

The new location includes a larger waiting area with a play room, a private breast feeding room, WIC Café and additional office and storage space.

“This new location will make my appointments so much easier,” said Madison Long,



CPN officials, WIC employees and the Shawnee Chamber cut the ribbon for the new WIC building.

WIC participant. “The extra room in the waiting area and the play spaces make it more comfortable and easy, especially when you have an active child.”

Additional educational services and nutrition counseling services will also be offered because of the new WIC Café and confidential meeting rooms.

“We tried to have WIC Café in the previous location and didn’t have the space. It was dangerous to do cooking demonstrations in such a small area,” said Cheryl Richardson, Nutrition and Breast feeding Coordinator, CPN WIC. “We have a full size kitchen now and that will allow us to educated participants on better food choices and show them different meal options with WIC approved foods.”

CPN’s WIC program has operated for more than 34 years and serves Pottawatomie, Cleveland, Lincoln, Logan, Payne, Oklahoma, and Seminole counties. The monthly average service population includes 260 women, 300 infants, and 720 children.

“Shelley Schneider has been in charge of the CPN WIC program since it began,” added Linda Capps. “We are proud of the tremendous progress she and her staff have made throughout the years.”

The total project cost was \$554,880 and was funded by an infrastructure grant provided by United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service program.



Mahaylah Long and Madison Long (mother) play in the new play area



A breast feeding room will provide privacy for mothers.



WIC participants will be able to attend cooking demos in the new WIC Café



## Gathering of Nations scheduled for August

Each year Citizen Potawatomi Nation provides free bus transportation for CPN tribal members and their immediate families so that they may travel to the annual Gathering. Tribal members are responsible for their lodging, meals and incidentals. The bus will leave from tribal headquarters in Shawnee, Okla. one or two days prior to the first day of the Gathering and return on last day of the Gathering.

The 2013 Potawatomi Gathering will be hosted by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians from Aug. 4-11, 2013 at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, MI. If you are planning to attend, please contact Cathie Hanson at 405-275-3121 x 1434 or 800-880-9880 to reserve your place on the bus.

Prairie Band reservation.

When the time came to move from Kansas to Indian Territory, many of the founding families were the first to make the move. Travelling south in family groups was the only way they could afford to make the trip. Not all of the Citizen Potawatomi founding families decided to move south, however. Some chose to sell their allotments and claim new homesteads in Kansas while others struck out on their own, moving as far away as California to the West or as far North as Canada.

As members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, we must remember that is it not only blood that connects us to one another. We also have a shared past; our ancestors struggled and made agonizing decisions that they hoped would make things better for future generations.

## Family Reunion Festival a time to honor our families

Each year at the Family Reunion Festival, Citizen Potawatomi Nation honors several of the founding families. Those being honored at the 2013 Family Reunion Festival are the Johnson, Lafromboise, LaReau, LeClaire, Melott, Rhodd, Tescier, Weld and Young families.

The concept of the founding families began more than 150 years ago when several families signed a treaty that formally established the Citizen Band of the Potawatomi Nation. In 1861 a large group of Potawatomi, about 2,200 people, were living on a reservation in northeast Kansas near Topeka. Decades before, some of these Potawatomi had moved with Catholic missionaries in hopes of distancing themselves from Euro-Americans. Others had been forcibly marched to the region on the Trail of Death in 1838. Most had survived multiple removals and endured

numerous broken promises by the U.S. government.

Regardless of how they got to Kansas, in 1861 all Potawatomi on the reservation were under incredible pressure from the federal government to sign yet another treaty that was to make them allottees and United States citizens. The federal government’s hope was that the Potawatomi would become fully assimilated.

Roughly 1,400 individuals made the decision to become allottees and citizens. These people became the Citizen Band, and those that refused that path became known as the Prairie Band. Therefore, the “founding families” are the

Potawatomi who attempted to engage with the government in a new way, distinct from their kinsmen.

Fewer than 100 tribal members signed the treaty in November 1861, but all Potawatomi living on the Kansas reservation were subject to its terms. They were given a two-year grace period to conduct a census, survey the reservation,

and make the decision to take allotments and citizenship or abstain.

Many individuals struggled with the decision. Some, who initially spoke out against the treaty, eventually agreed to its terms and became Citizen Band members; others, who agreed in the beginning later changed their minds and moved onto the diminished





# Language and Culture

## Revitalizing our Language

Across the United States tribes are struggling to revive what once came to them naturally. After years of suppression and forced assimilation, Native languages have dwindled from more than 300 to only a handful today. With less than a dozen fluent speakers of Potawatomi among the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the language department faces a unique challenge in teaching and preserving our native tongue.

“Like all languages, ours is unique to us and carries with it many elements of our history and culture; it helps us define our identity, culture and traditions,” said Justin Neely, director, CPN language department. “If we want to

survive and understand our history and traditions, we have to learn and revive our language.”

The American Indian Freedom of Religion Act in 1978 ended nearly 100 years of suppression and forced assimilation by the United States government. For years, a network of boarding schools worked to destroy Native Americans' language and culture.

“It’s only within the last 10 years or so that we’ve seen tribes have the resources and opportunities to really focus on reviving their languages and cultures,” added Neely. “Right now we’re hanging from a cliff and hanging on by

our teeth. Our language is still slipping away.”

Of the 300 Native American languages in North America only 125 survive today and it is estimated that another 50-70 could disappear in the next decade unless revitalization efforts are supported.

“Currently there are fewer than 10 people who speak Potawatomi from a first language perspective and only another dozen or so who speak it from a second language perspective,” said Neely. “We need our younger generations to take an interest in their language and culture now so that we can increase those numbers and keep our language and culture alive.”

The language department currently works with children and teachers at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Child Development Center to offer a comprehensive curriculum of cultural stories in the Potawatomi language and cultural education on video. The naming ceremony, pipe, drum, and horse and buffalo ceremonies have also been reintroduced.

The language department also offers classes in person and online. A beginner language course is offered online on Tuesdays from noon to 1 p.m. and an evening class is offered online from 7 to 8 p.m. An intermediate class is offered online Thursday from 2 to 3 p.m. Additional classes

are offered in Shawnee at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center.

“So many of our tribal citizens live away from Shawnee and many more don’t know anything about their tribe or culture,” said Neely. “This is your opportunity to feel more connected with your culture and heritage. Learning your language will give you a deeper connection with your tribe no matter where you are.”

Visit [www.potawatomi.org/lang](http://www.potawatomi.org/lang) for language resources and information on a class schedule.

## Winter Story - The Turtle Goes to War

One time that well-known Brave Snapping Turtle, became angry. “Our Brave is very cranky,” said the other turtles. One day a messenger came to all of them, calling each to appear at Snapping Turtle’s wigwam for a feast.

After the feast, Snapping Turtle addressed his friends. “My brothers,” he said, “I am angry at mankind. I am going to raise a war party and fight them.”

All of the turtles agreed that they had received many insults from the people living around them. The turtles were ready to fight, so that night the chosen warriors rested and prepared to do battle.

One of the warriors, Little Box Turtle, had a dream of bad omen.

In his dream Little Box Turtle sang his song. “Oh! Snapping Turtle, I see us now! They are throwing all us turtles on a

sack!”

“Say, don’t sing that!” hissed Snapping Turtle.

But Little Box Turtle continued to sing in his sleep. “Oh Snapping Turtle, I see us now! They are throwing all us turtles in a sack!”

This song made Snapping Turtle very angry, so he awoke Little Box Turtle and kicked his shell. The blow struck Little Box Turtle so hard that it broke his shell.

“Next time,” said Snapping Turtle, “you will sing, ‘Snapping Turtle the Brave, You are so strong there is no creature, that can do you harm!’”

“I don’t want you to sing that I get my people thrown into a sack. It’s a bad song. Sing rather that I am the one who is brave, and defeats me enemy.”

Little Box Turtle answered, “I

don’t want my friends put in a sack. This is not my fault. I was asleep; the song was in my dream. Who am I to control my dreams?”

They started out to war and at last they arrived at an Indian Village. The turtles gave their war whoop and charged upon it.

When the outcry was heard all the woman ran out of their wigwams. “Oh look at the turtles!” they cried, and, with great delight the woman threw the turtles into their sacks.

One of the turtles named Meskwaka, was so prettily marked with red that the woman who picked him up hugged him close to her cheek, and he bit off her ear.

In her rage, she threw him into the water, and of course he escaped. So this turtle indeed counted a coup on the enemy.

The woman carried their

captives home, and were very angry about the turtle having bitten off their friends ear. So they held a council over the war leaders Snapping Turtle.

One council man said, “Let’s burn him. He is our enemy.” “Ahaw,” said Snapping Turtle, “That will be good.” “No,” said the council, “He will kick fire all over and destroy our lodges.”

One man said. “Let’s put him up and shoot him with arrows.” The council decided this method was too dangerous. The arrows could glance off, and people could be hurt.

“Let’s boil him in the big kettle,” another man said. “Ahaw” said Snapping Turtle, “In that way I would die with honor.” “No,” said the council. “He will be able to splash boiling water, and scald us.”

“In that case,” said another, “Let’s throw him in the river!” At these words, Snapping

Turtle and his followers began to bed for mercy, and plead that they not be drowned. They claimed that this was an awful punishment.

The women though that at last they had found the best way to punish the turtles, and tossed them all into the river.

But, really, those turtles loved the water, and they not only escaped, but whatever the women went for fresh water, the turtles would stir up mud and spoil the springs.

The men of the Indian village would not believe that the turtles had deceived their wives until one day they saw a whole lot of turtles enjoying the sun on a log.

After their escape, the Turtles held a great victory dance at Snapper’s house, and Meskwaka the red turtle was the hero, because he alone counted coup.



Images by Penny Coates

## Language from Justin

Bozho Jayek

It is now March and I hope some of you have taken advantage of our new on-site language classes being taught each Monday from 5-6 p.m. Even if you are just hearing about them, please don’t hesitate to join. We also hope you have enjoyed some of the winter stories we have shared with you. We want to reiterate that these stories are only told during the winter time, so please respect this tradition of our ancestors and only share these stories during this period. Some even say there needs to be snow on the ground before we share them, but here in Oklahoma we

know that this rarely happens even in the winter.

I hope that this will be the year that you also choose to learn some of our beautiful Bodéwadmimwen (Potawatomi language). It is part of who we are as a people. In order for us to continue into the future and still consider ourselves Potawatomi it is dependent on this generation to take up the challenge and learn about our language and traditional ways. Otherwise one day we will be a tribe of people who are only descendants of Potawatomi people. Keep in mind it's our language, stories, ceremonies, songs, and other traditions

which make us a unique people.

Besides keeping our traditions alive, knowing our language is vital in every day terms. In the not so distant past, a number of tribes lost their federal recognition. One of the ways the U.S. government does this is by examining certain characteristics which make a people a tribe, specifically a unique language and traditions that are used today. One day the U.S. government will no doubt attempt to do away with more tribes. If that day should come, all of the federal benefits we now receive would disappear, meaning no more tribal scholarships, housing

assistance or medical benefits.

In order to ensure our future survival, it is up to each of you reading this article to do your part. Sure, we are not all linguistically inclined, but each of us has a part to play in passing on the traditions of our tribe within our own families. There is no reason that everyone couldn’t learn a few basic greetings and words in our language. Who knows, this interest could lead to a much deeper understanding of our language. It is definitely a doable thing.

I think back to a number of years ago when I first started learning the language. At

that point, I didn’t know a single word, but today I have no problem conversing in Potawatomi. So I know from my firsthand experience that it is possible. Heck, in school I wasn’t even good at languages despite taking French, Spanish, and even some German. But Potawatomi just made sense to me. Also, do not discount the fact that it's in your DNA and part of who you are. So this year as you make New Year’s resolutions, perhaps include in those learning Potawatomi. I can tell you from experience it’s a decision you will always cherish and never regret.



## CHC Basket Class

By Stacy Coon

The Cultural Heritage Center kicked off a new class schedule with a basket making class taught by Loretta Burgess. Ms. Burgess, a member of the Comanche Nation, has been making Cherokee double wall baskets for the past thirteen years. The cost of the class was \$25, which included the materials and instruction needed to complete a basket. Each of the two classes was attended by 5-7 participants who received instruction from Loretta on how to start and finish a small basket. Loretta supplied dyed pieces of reed

and bead embellishments that were incorporated into the baskets to add some color and make them more personal. Most of the participants in the class had little or no experience weaving baskets, but as Loretta demonstrated, once the basket was started it was just getting the repetition of the weaving motion down. Before long, the baskets were beginning to take on their shape! Each participant agreed that learning the process of making a basket was an insightful and rewarding experience they would carry with them in life and share with others...or simply just make more baskets!



Ardena O’Neal works on her basket weaving

Loretta Oden and Reva Wolf learn to make a Cherokee



Verna (Slavin) Brooks and Laura Weinstein learn how to make a basket



A Cherokee basket



## Carlisle Indian Industrial School 1879-1918

Carlisle Indian Industrial School was an Indian boarding school in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. One of the first of its kind, it was founded by Captain Richard Henry Pratt at an abandoned military post. The so-called ‘noble-experiment’ was a failed attempt to forcibly assimilate Native American children into white civilization. One of the main principles of the school, as Captain Pratt famously

said, was to “Kill the Indian and save the man”. Because of Pratt’s “success” at shaping the Indian’s identity, it later spawned 26 other Indian boarding schools across the country and quickly became a part of U.S. Indian policy.

As part of the recruiting process, Pratt would convince the parents of the Indian children that the reason why the white men were taking

their land was because Indians were not educated enough. In the beginning, parents were voluntarily let their children go. However, over time, parents were coerced and often forced to send their children to Carlisle.

After the new recruits arrived at the school, the Indian children would take before and after pictures, primarily to show the progress of the school and its success at assimilating the children. Carlisle was modeled on the military lifestyle with Indian boys wearing uniforms and girls Victorian style dresses. They marched to and from class and the dining halls. The boys and girls were organized into companies with officers who took charge of drill while discipline at the school was strictly enforced. Carlisle was structured with academics for one half of the day and instruction in trades the other half. In the summer months,

rather than letting the children go back to the reservations, the school implemented what was known as an ‘outing system’, where the students would work for a non-Indian family for the summer and return back to Carlisle to begin the new school year. This was yet another part of the detribalization process.



David P. Johnson at Carlisle Indian School

By the time Carlisle closed in 1918, over 10,000 Indian children had gone through its doors. The results of this era presented ever-lasting, negative effects on the Indian student’s sense of cultural identity. Subsequently, the oppression of their Indian identities often could not be reversed and they ultimately entered a world outside of Carlisle confused and lacking self-worth. Although the negative experiences among those Native Americans who attended Carlisle often outweighed the good, Carlisle, today is now famously associated with Olympic great and Citizen Potawatomi member, Jim Thorpe.

The United States Army War College now occupies the site of the former Indian boarding school.



This footlocker belonged to David P. Johnson and has an inscription reading Carlisle Indian School

## Potawatomi Cornerstone

By Charles Clark, Director Tribal Rolls

Bozho,

I know it’s been a while since my last article and I apologize. But now that the hiatus is over I will be bringing back the Cornerstone on a regular basis. In the past I have brought you insights to our history as a people and culture, and everything that goes on in our lives today is a result of that history. And what better way to honor that history than by writing about our current tribal citizens? For that reason, I have changed the venue of the Cornerstone to reflect our contemporary history.

To start this new format I would like to introduce Marcia Bendo, a member of the Bertrand family. It was a couple of years ago, early on a Sunday morning the last day of the Family Festival next to a pond that I gave my first cousin her Potawatomi name Kaukima, which means “reads repeatedly.” Kaukima, sister of Chief Topenebe, was an avid reader of the Bible.

The name was carefully chosen to connect her to our ancestral family that would in turn start her on a journey to connect with present-day family. As family, a lot of us live far away from each other and rarely see one another. I saw the naming ceremony as an opportunity to not only connect with our ancestors, but to form a new relationship between living relatives. And since that morning, the journey has been an immense realization.

Marcia has always had an ear for music and found it to be the perfect platform to getting back

to her roots. She picked up the Native American flute and has come a long way since. When asked what inspired her to play the flute, she said “two years ago, I became interested in the history and cultural significance of the flute among North American indigenous people. Traditions vary, with the flute having sacred, spiritual, healing or social purposes. I was curious about the role flutes might have played in Potawatomi culture and music.

“Having played piano and violin since childhood, I was also inspired by the beauty and unique quality of sounds created when it’s played, often described as breathy, buzzy, haunting, or sweet. Through the voice of the flute, the player can express ideas, emotions, ceremony, spirituality, or relationships with the natural world. I’ve learned to play these flutes from teachers and flute players who embrace traditional as well as contemporary styles.”

With inspiration comes knowledge. It is not enough to simply learn how to play the flute. One must go out and seek others that share that same passion and explore the richness in the variation of sounds produced by other instruments. To keep that inspiration alive, Marcia looks for any opportunity to view collections, old and new, to converse with traditional players about their perspectives, and to explore the versatility of these instruments at cultural and educational gatherings.

For Marcia, her inspiration comes from “listening to a variety of musical styles by contemporary performers who

respect the history and tradition of the native flute, such as Bryan Akipa, Joseph Firecrow, Kevin Locke, Mary Youngblood, R. Carlos Nakai and Hawk Henries.”

According to her, “every flute is unique and has its own musical spirit which inspires what and how I play.”

During this time she has also researched the spiritual and ceremonial aspects of the flute of the Potawatomes, but has found very little except that the music is usually passed down within a family much like the oral tradition of family stories. And because of that, the music is very personal within those family circles and not heard by the outside world. Though the task may be daunting it doesn’t deter Marcia from searching for these musical roots.

Some teachers or artists have published song books and there are websites which post transcribed songs in a variety of styles and traditions. Like most flute players, she enjoys using these resources as well as relying on her own musical talents to improvise with other musicians or pre-recorded tracks and to write her own music.

Last year at the 2012 CPN Family Festival, Marcia made several appearances at the Cultural Heritage Center playing her flute that included traditional songs, improvisations and some contemporary songs written by Mary Youngblood and R.C. Nakai.

What’s next for Marcia?

She would like to help people get some introductory skills to start their own flute journey by conducting workshops at a Potawatomi gathering or event. Perhaps in Marcia, we have a future cultural music teacher for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

I asked Marcia what it means to be a Potawatomi and a Bertrand. She was quick to respond “... to be strong as a community with a common history. The strength of the Nation to survive migrations and adversity across North America is a remarkable legacy. Thirty years ago, I began to research my family history and became aware of how my Bertrand ancestors joined the Potawatomi people. When I attend the annual Family Reunion Festival, I sense that every family, every attendee is somehow connected to my Bertrand family. We are relations and share a bond.”

I want to thank Marcia Bendo for her time in sharing with me her personal story of what it means to be Potawatomi and the music she plays. Anyone interested in more information about Native American Flutes, including history and songs can log onto [www.flutetree.com](http://www.flutetree.com) and [www.flutopedia.com](http://www.flutopedia.com)

If you or another tribal member you know has a unique story to tell, e-mail me, Charles Clark, Director Tribal Rolls at [cclark@potawatomi.org](mailto:cclark@potawatomi.org).





## CPN Police Department promotes Haworth to sergeant

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department held a special ceremony in January to promote Eric Haworth to sergeant. Haworth has served the CPN Police Department since 2010.

Prior to joining the CPN Police Department, Haworth worked at the Seminole County Sheriff’s Office as a jailor and as a reserve officer for the City of Wewoka. Haworth has also spent time as the Chief of Police for the Maud Police Department and the Assistant Chief of Police for Konawa Police Department.

“I enjoy the profession I have chosen and the people I work for and with at the Citizen

Potawatomi Nation Police Department,” said Haworth. “I think that we have the best officers that I have ever had the opportunity to serve with at this department.”

Becoming a police officer was a childhood ambition for Haworth, who was inspired by his father. A United States Navy veteran, Haworth’s father served as a police officer in Seminole, Okla.

“I guess my dad was around 25 years old at the time he was a police officer for the City of Seminole,” said Haworth. “Some of the stories he told as I was growing up about chasing bad guys and solving crimes piqued my interest. I believe

that was what influenced me in becoming a police officer.”

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department employs three sergeants. Each must complete an exam consisting of questions on state, tribal and federal laws, CPN Police Department policy and tribal codes. The responsibilities of sergeant include day to day operations of a shift and special projects.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department was founded more than two decades ago to protect tribal assets and employees, increase public safety and enhance the general well-being of the community.



Dr. James Collard, Chief of Police; Linda Capps, Vice Chairman; Eric Haworth, Sergeant; Philip D. Lujan, Chief District Judge

## Greenwalt assumes new role at Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Jason Greenwalt will begin a new role at Citizen Potawatomi Nation as Executive Operations Coordinator. Greenwalt has been employed with CPN since 2005 and served as the Director of Gaming Commission for seven years.

He will assist the Vice Chairman with day-to-day operations and the Chairman and the Secretary/Treasurer on an as-needed basis. Greenwalt will work closely with CPN enterprises and governmental programs, and will assist the human resources department upon request. The leading responsibility for his position is to help with the oversight of various programs and to support endeavors of the executive branch as new ideas and programs are developed. His duties will also include assisting with the overall strategic planning and

execution of those plans in regards to tribal operations.

“Jason’s experience and expertise in regulation and advancements in the gaming industry will enhance the ability of the executive branch to monitor the legal and compliance aspects as well as future opportunities in regards to gaming,” said Linda Capps, Vice Chairman, Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

A descendant of the Bergeron family and a 2004 graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Greenwalt completed a BA in Business Administration while working full time and raising a family. Originally from California, he moved to Oklahoma in 1995.

“There is a great sense of satisfaction and pride, that is nearly impossible to fully describe, in working for your tribe,” said Greenwalt.

“It’s the organization that represents your culture, your heritage, your ancestry, and your children’s future. I am sincerely humbled to be offered this opportunity to advance and continue to help shape and secure the future of our Nation in order to provide for generations to come.”

In addition to his new role, Greenwalt is Chairman of the Advisory Board of the local American Red Cross, a board member of the Shawnee Kiwanis Club, a member and past treasurer of the Oklahoma Tribal Gaming Regulators Association, a graduate of Leadership Shawnee and past member of the Leadership Shawnee Committee. He is also a boxing and mixed martial arts (MMA) judge for both the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Athletic Commission and the Oklahoma State Athletic Commission.



Linda Capps, Vice Chairman; Jon Arrasmith, Gaming Commission Director; Jason Greenwalt, Executive Operations Director; Richard Brown, Human Resources Director. The Gaming Commission presented Jason Greenwalt with an award for his seven years of service to the Gaming Commission.

## Jon Arrasmith promoted to Gaming Commission director

Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Jon Arrasmith has been promoted from lead internal auditor to director of the CPN Gaming Commission. He has served Citizen Potawatomi Nation since 2009.

Arrasmith will be responsible for ensuring that all CPN gaming facilities are operating in accordance with federal, state and tribal laws and regulations. He will also oversee employee and vendor licensing, audits and investigations.

“I have been interested in working for the tribe for years,” said Arrasmith. “I have always had a sense of pride for my tribal heritage and I have always had the hope that I could one day contribute

to the future growth of our prospering tribal nation.”

Arrasmith is a descendant of Lillie Bostick and grew up around Shawnee and Tecumseh. He is a graduate of Seminole State College and East Central University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Human Resources and Criminal Justice Administration. Arrasmith is also a member of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity and holds the Finance Chair on the Alumni Advisory Board of Governor.

He is a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, a graduate of the Leadership Shawnee Program and the Treasurer for the Oklahoma Tribal Gaming Regulators Association.



Jon Arrasmith

# FOSTER HOMES NEEDED

To preserve the culture of our Native children,  
Tribal foster homes are desperately needed in Oklahoma  
and throughout the United States.

Many of our Tribal children are placed in non-native homes when  
taken into State custody due to the lack of Tribal foster families.

With the Indian Child Welfare Act under recent attack and  
scrutiny, it is vital, now more than ever, for Tribal children  
to have initial placement in Tribal foster homes.

If you are an Oklahoma resident willing to open your heart  
and home to our children in out-of-home placements, please  
contact our office for an application packet.

For those living in other areas, you may contact our office  
for further information on becoming a Tribal home  
in your State of residence.

FireLodge Children and Family Services

(405)878-4831 1(800)880-9880



Geothermal technology part of CPN construction projects

With the Oklahoma’s recent energy boom in natural gas production, residents forget that inroads are being made in green energy right here on tribal land. Through the use of a technology known as geothermal, a number of CPN buildings, both large and small, are saving money and energy in their heating and cooling costs.

CPN’s association with geothermal began more than a decade ago during the construction of the South Clinic. The success of that project set the tribe on a mission to use geothermal in all new construction projects.

Technology developed at Oklahoma State University’s College of Mechanical Engineering became the basis for many tribal projects. Former OSU instructor Randy Perry became involved with CPN through this relationship and was eventually hired on to construct the geothermal system at The Grand. Perry played an integral part in the tribe’s first steps into the development of its geothermal technology.

“The benefit to CPN is twofold,” said CPN’s Director of Public Works Richard Kunze. “One, we can save 25-30 percent on utility costs. On top of that are savings on maintenance costs which are ultimately a good thing.”

The FireLake Bowling Center is the latest example of the tribe’s facilities using

geothermal. The system pumps internal air through a network of pipes located underneath The Ball Fields at FireLake. Additionally, the west Health Clinic and the Cultural Heritage Center are geothermal and are cooled by nearby ponds. Father Joe Murphy Phase III housing units for the tribe’s elderly also run geothermal and derive some energy needs from rooftop solar panels.

The FireLake Events Center, entering its final stages of construction, features a unique hybrid system that relies on geothermal and gas. Due to its large size, the building is heated using natural gas powered furnaces. It is cooled using geothermal pipes that run to the nearby FireLake that sits out behind the Ball Fields Sports Complex.

The need for a body of water that could handle the cooling needs of the arena meant that designers had to dig and fill FireLake once the cooling pipes were laid at the bottom. Because the pipes have a 50 year warranty and an even longer lifespan, the savings will kick in as soon as the system comes on line.

“The other benefit of geothermal is that it afforded us the opportunity us to build a nice lake that can be used for boating, fishing and other recreational activities,” said Steve Wilson, Director of Heating and Air. “It will be a place where people in our community can gather and

play.”

A residential installation using traditional equipment would cost about \$3,000, while a geothermal system might cost around \$7,000. With geothermal heating and cooling, the job of an air conditioning unit is done by the Earth itself. Using geothermal, hot air from a house is funneled into pipes that run 250 feet underground. The ground’s low temperature cools the air through contact with the pipes, thus saving on the energy and mechanical costs that come with running an air conditioning unit.

“Basically with geothermal, you eliminate air conditioning compressors all together,” said Kunze.

While natural gas industry leaders like Chesapeake and Devon gain recognition in Oklahoma, Citizen Potawatomi Nation has become a local leader in green energy innovation in its own right. The savings the tribe has made to this point, the future will likely see more green projects for tribal properties.



A pond near the golf course helps to cool the Heritage Center



This 50 ton unit helps cool The Grand



About 120,000 feet of pipe at the bottom of a pond near The Grand

Day of Champions Football Camp to take place July 1-2

The Day of Champions Football Camp will return to Shawnee for the ninth year. The camp works with area youth to develop life skills that they can use on and off of the football field. Day of Champions Football Camp president Ken Huepul organizes the camp and brings in coaches from high school and college to help instruct.

“Chairman Barret and Vice Chairman Linda Capps have spearheaded this camp and gave the agreement their support,” said Heupel. “The camp has built on that foundation each and every year and we get to encourage and mentor more youth.”

Nine years and several hundred campers later, the football camps are an

important calendar date for youth football. The camp is open to boys and girls who are CPN members or children of CPN employees. Typically about 150 campers from ages 7-14 attend the camp. Tribal member Shane Williams’ son and his teammates on Team Bedlam have been attending the camps regularly over the past several years.

“I have seen our players using the skills they have learned at the camps in football this year,” said Williams. “We have used the skills they developed at camp and have won every tournament we’ve been in.”

Heupel is the former head coach at Northern State University, a Division 2 football program in Aberdeen,

South Dakota. He is also the father of former University of Oklahoma quarterback Josh Heupel, who currently serves as OU’s Offensive Coordinator and is a guest coach at The Day of Champions Camp.

The camp is designed as an instructional environment for young football players. But it also aims to mentor them in decisions that will affect their health, fitness and future life choices. The core focus isn’t just football, but also nutrition, respect and trust. The goal is to help attendees develop their own character through the hard work they put in during the two day event.

“There are a lot of football fundamentals, but there is also a lot of other teaching going on at the camp like learning about proper nutrition, discipline, respect, and trust,” said Heupel.

Day of Champions Camps have also become well known for giving participants the chance to work with college and NFL coaches to help develop good habits both on and off the field. 16 coaches are set to participate in this year’s camp at the CPN and Heupel says that getting them to juggle their busy summer schedules has never been a problem.

“I have these coaches calling me to work the camps,” Heupel noted. “Each year it gets easier to bring the staff together.”

Camp for 2013 will take place at the Festival Grounds on July 1-2, and the cost is \$15 per person. That total includes lunch on both days and a camp T-shirt. For registration, people should contact Sarah Lawrence at the FireLake Wellness Center at 405-395-9304 or skessler@potawatomi.org.



CPN Members Thad Williams and Wes LeClaire show off their rings from the Halo-Ring Tournament in Edmond. Both boys had previously participated in Day of Champions

Construction Updates



Construction crews are finishing the dirt work for the new parking lot and golf course clubhouse. Construction will be complete this summer.



Construction crews are working on refurbishing the building previously used by CPN Police. The building will be used as the new location for the convenience store.



The Arena will be complete this summer.



A-OK railroad has completed the bridge at Iron Horse and will connect the rail line soon.



Crews are working on the steel structure for the new event center. The 2,500 seat event center will open this summer.



## P.L.A.C.E to welcome youth this month

A new facility at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation dedicated to serving youth is finally a reality for tribal members. The FireLodge Tribal Youth Program, under the direction of the Indian Child Welfare program, is proud to announce the opening of the P.L.A.C.E.-Potawatomi Learning and Cultural Exchange: A Youth Club. The new facility includes a learning lab to educate youth, a regulation sized basketball court with bleachers, a lounge/recreation area, and offices for up to five staff members.

The P.L.A.C.E. is specifically designed for youth from the ages of 12-17 years old, or seniors in high school. The FireLodge Youth Council comprised of thirty middle school and high school youth representing five local and surrounding communities, have provided staff members and the Tribal Youth Advisory Board with a large proportion of ideas, plans and goals of the program. The youth council even assisted in developing the name of the facility along with its furnishings and décor.

“As representatives of the youth council, we are all looking forward to hosting and befriending our new peers in this exciting opportunity! It’s been an honor to work with our advisors to help develop this thing called the P.L.A.C.E,” said Trae Trousdale, a participant and the male copresident of the FireLodge Youth Council.

The Indian Child Welfare program received the Tribal Youth Grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in 2008 to run the program. Members of the staff will be reapplying for another funding period this spring to continue their work at CPN. In the first five years of the grant, the team established a respected name in the community by collaborating with school districts and several tribal offices to provide life skills, education, after school tutoring programs, annual summer camps, and opportunities for parent education.

“All of our work has, up to this point, been guided by our tribal youth who participate in the youth council and our team’s driving philosophy is that by giving youth opportunities to lead, supporting them in a positive and caring way, and encouraging them to get involved in their culture,” said Michael Logan, prevention specialist. “Our efforts will actually decrease the likelihood that they will be swayed or enticed to make unhealthy, negative choices in life, even when their peers might be doing so.”

With the opening of the new facility, the Tribal Youth Program has been given an opportunity to change the structure of their programs and serve youth more diligently and now on a daily basis. Through additional financial support and collaboration with

the Childcare Development Center and their long-time director Donnette Littlehead, who has been a staunch supporter and seen the need for ongoing after school care beyond the age of thirteen, this facility offers the potential to continue caring for youth who may be left unattended after school each day.

“Statistics show the juvenile delinquency and crime rates rise between the hours of 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. across the nation. By providing cultural awareness, fun activities, and ongoing education to youth until parents are available to carry out their family duties, this program will benefit the entire community,” said program coordinator, B.J. Trousdale, a CPN tribal member and life-long resident of the community.

**So how does it all work?** During the school year, the P.L.A.C.E. will provide transportation from local schools to the facility Monday through Friday and will also be open at various times during school breaks and holidays. While there, all youth will be required to participate in G.E.T. (Gym, Education, and Training) Smart-a tutoring and homework completion time. No homework? Not likely, but if so, other educational courses such as career and college readiness, financial literacy, drivers education, a small library to encourage reading, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and

math) opportunities will be available. Based on their age groups, participants will rotate from G.E.T. Smart to G.E.T. Fit where they will play basketball or engage in other physical activities, and they will also regularly participate in G.E.T. Native, a vital piece of the program where cultural activities and elder care will be the focus. When curriculum activities are completed there is the G.E.T. away. This space provides a highly cherished time for teens - a social hour. After 5 p.m.. video games, board games, and comfortable seating areas are available for teenagers so they can hang out and interact without cell phones and Facebook. The P.L.A.C.E. is open for after school activities from 2:30-6:30 p.m. each day. During the summer break, hours will be extended from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

**Who can participate and what will it cost?** Any youth between the ages of twelve and seventeen as well as seniors enrolled in high school are eligible to attend. Potawatomi and other Native youth will be given preference during each enrollment period - which occurs quarterly. The quarterly membership fee is \$30.00 per person (\$60.00 in the summer quarter) and discounts are available for Potawatomi members and families with multiple members enrolled. In addition, a weekly attendance fee of \$1.00 is also required; however, youth are encouraged to budget and use their own money- such as allowances, gifts, or any income they might receive- in order to have “ownership” in the club’s experience. These fees will be used to provide snacks and meals. Outside of monetary responsibilities, parents and guardians will also be expected to participate in regular family decision team meetings to assist staff in supporting each program participant to plan and guide their future endeavors. This will likely be a biannual commitment and staff members will work around the family’s schedule to conduct

such meetings.

**Like the idea? Now do you want to know how to participate?** The program will begin on March 25, 2013. There will be several opportunities to send your youth to “Welcome Week”. On Tuesday, March 19th and Thursday, March 21st there will be morning and afternoon sessions open to the public. This provides each participant an opportunity to experience the program and club before making any formal commitment or pay a membership fee. Youth can attend a single session or all four if they wish. “Welcome Week” has been designed to provide multiple opportunities and the staff will make every effort to avoid redundancy if the teenager wants to attend all of the sessions. A short application and release form is required before prior to attending “Welcome Week”. Please contact Michael Logan at 405-214-5110 or michael.logan@potawatomi.org to request an application or with any questions. At the end of each session or anytime on Friday, March 22nd, parents and guardians will have the opportunity to ask questions and formally enroll in the first quarter’s session. Quarterly membership fees will be due at that time.

Even if you’re not interested or eligible to attend “Welcome Week” or the P.L.A.C.E., our staff still wants to extend an invitation to “break in” our new facility and support our FireLodge Youth Council on Saturday, March 16th. The youth council will be hosting the 2013 Native All-Stars Basketball Games, featuring junior high and high school Native basketball players and coaches nominated from Pottawatomie, Seminole, Pontotoc, Okfuskee, Cleveland, and Lincoln counties. The entry fee is \$4 for adults and \$2 for youth under the age of 12 and seniors over 55. For more information on this event, please contact Coby Lehman at 405-878-5830 or by e-mail at coby.lehman@potawatomi.org.

## Talbot to lead CPN Vets in 2013

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Veterans’ Organization elected a new commander at their January meeting.

Commander Joe Melot officially resigned his post of commander via written letter at the beginning of the gathering. Melot had served as the group’s leader in 2012.

Following a discussion of current and ongoing business, a quorum of veterans in attendance voted on officers for 2013.

Daryl Talbot was elected commander, while Clyde “Rowdy” Yates was elected as Vice-Commander. David Barrett was reelected as treasurer and acting secretary Bill Wano agreed to stay on until a replacement can be found. Herb Holton will remain as Team Leader.



Secretary Bill Wano, Treasurer David Barrett, Vice Commander Clyde “Rowdy” Yates, Commander Daryl Talbot and Team Leader Herb Holton

The CPN Veterans’ Organization was founded in 2007, and is open to all CPN tribal members who are former or active duty members of the military. Dues are free for WWII veterans as well as active duty military members.

The organization meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the North Reunion Hall, except during June when it takes place at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center. For further information, please visit [www.cpnveterans.org](http://www.cpnveterans.org).



B o z h o , Every January we break away from our regular meeting routine to tend to the business of electing officers to serve the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Veterans Organization for the year. This month was a time for a few changes as I was moved up from Vice Commander to Commander when Commander Joe David

Melot had to resign due to poor health and that left my Vice Commander position open. Clyde Yates was nominated and elected to serve the remainder of my Vice Commander position. David Barrett was re-elected as Treasurer and Bill Wano volunteered to continue as Secretary for the organization until a replacement can be found. Herb Holton remains Team Leader of the Honor and Color

Guard. I’m looking forward to serving the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Veterans Organization with this new team during the year. It promises to be a great 2013. We hope to grow into a bigger and better veterans family organization dedicated to recognizing and honoring our Citizen Potawatomi Nation Veterans. We meet every fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM in the South Reunion Hall, except at festival time in June. All CPN veterans and their families are welcome. For more information about our organization and becoming a member, visit our website at: [www.cpnveterans.com](http://www.cpnveterans.com).

M i g w e t c h ! Daryl Talbot, Commander

## Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tag Agency making changes

The tag agency will be getting a new tag program for vehicle registrations soon. We are preparing for this new program and have been reviewing our records. The staff will be asking tribal members to have their tribal enrollment cards updated at the time of the registration process. Tribal members will need to see the tribal enrollment office if they need to update their ID cards.

Farm card holders will receive a notice in the mail to have their current Agriculture (SMX) cards updated with the office before they can update their vehicle registration. Please call our staff if you have questions regarding your farm tag registration.

As a reminder, Citizen

Potawatomi Nation license plates are to be returned to the tag agency if the vehicle has been sold, traded, salvaged, repossessed or is no longer registered to the tribal member. Once the license plate is received by mail or in person at the Tag Agency, the staff will deactivate the tag and registration. This will prevent anyone from using the tag illegally. If the tag is not removed from the vehicle, it is the tribal member’s responsibility to contact the tag agency immediately.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please call our office and speak to a staff member that can help you. The Tag Agency number is 405 273-1009, our fax number is 405-273-2043.

### Update your information with Tribal Rolls!

If you have moved, please update your address with Tribal Rolls so that you continue to receive important information about Citizen Potawatomi Nation!

Call (405) 878-5835 or (800) 880-9880 for more information!



Diabetic Eye Disease Rates Increase Among U.S. Population

Diabetes affects nearly 26 million people in the United States. In addition, another 79 million people are estimated to have pre-diabetes, a condition that puts people at increased risk for diabetes. All people with diabetes, both type 1 and type 2, are at risk for diabetic eye disease, a leading cause of vision loss and blindness.

Diabetic eye disease refers to a group of eye problems that people with diabetes may face as a complication of the disease and includes cataract, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma. Diabetic retinopathy, the most common diabetic eye disease, is the leading cause of blindness in adults 20–74 years of age. According to the National Eye Institute (NEI), 7.7 million people age 40 and older have diabetic retinopathy and this number is projected to increase to approximately 11 million people by 2030.

“The longer a person has diabetes the greater is his or her risk of developing diabetic eye disease,” said Paul A. Sieving, M.D., Ph.D., director of the

NEI. “If you have diabetes, be sure to have a comprehensive dilated eye exam at least once a year. Diabetic eye disease often has no early warning signs, but can be detected early and treated before vision loss occurs. Don’t wait until you notice an eye problem to have an exam because vision that is lost often cannot be restored.”

While all people with diabetes can develop diabetic eye disease, African Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, and Hispanics/Latinos with diabetes are at higher risk of losing vision or going blind from it. All people with diabetes should have a dilated eye exam at least once a year to detect vision problems early. “In fact, with early detection, timely laser surgery, and appropriate follow-up care, people with advanced diabetic retinopathy can reduce their risk of blindness by 90 percent,” adds Suber Huang, M.D., M.B.A., chair of the Diabetic Eye Disease Subcommittee for the NEI’s National Eye Health

Education Program.

Research has shown that when people with diabetes maintain good control of blood sugar, blood pressure, and cholesterol they can slow the development and progression of diabetic eye disease. In addition to having annual comprehensive dilated eye exams, people with diabetes should do the following to keep their health on TRACK:

- Take your medications.
- Reach and maintain a healthy weight.
- Add physical activity to your daily routine.
- Control your blood sugar, blood pressure, and cholesterol.
- Kick the smoking habit.

For more information on diabetic eye disease and tips on finding an eye care professional or financial assistance for eye care, visit [www.nei.nih.gov/diabetes](http://www.nei.nih.gov/diabetes) or call NEI at 301-496-5248.



# DAY OF CHAMPIONS

DISCIPLINE | RESPECT | TRUST | HARD WORK

presented by

## POTAWATOMI NATION

# FOOTBALL

## CAMP

**JULY 1-2, 2013**  
**8AM - 3:30PM**  
**AGES 7-14**

**NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBE AFFILIATION**  
(COIB OR TRIBAL AFFILIATION CARD DUE WITH APPLICATION)

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Festival Grounds  
1702 South Gordon Cooper Drive  
Shawnee, Oklahoma

**REFER ANY QUESTIONS TO SARAH LAWERANCE**  
**SKESSLER@POTAWATOMI.ORG OR 405.395.9304**

CPN Health Service proudly announces the arrival of Dr. Adediji

On behalf of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the CPN Health Service proudly announces the arrival of its first full time pediatrician, Dr. Fausat Adediji. Dr. Adediji joined the CPNHS medical staff in September 2012 after completing her pediatric residency at the University of Oklahoma in Tulsa. Dr. Adediji is board certified by the General Pediatrics Board and is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics and American Medical Association. She is

currently practicing at the CPN East Clinic on Gordon Cooper Dr. in Shawnee. As of January 21st, 2013, the pediatric practice will move to its new location at the CPN West Clinic. This move will give CPNHS a dedicated pediatric clinic while combining both locations’ pediatric panel and also help facilitate the space needed for the current expansions at the CPN East Clinic.

To establish your child’s care with

Dr. Adediji please call

(405) 964-5770



# Save the date!

## FireLake Golf Classic

June 15-16, 2013

More information soon





Produced by IHS Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention,  
[www.diabetes.ihs.gov](http://www.diabetes.ihs.gov)

# 3 STEPS To HEALTHY EATING

You can help your family members eat healthy by taking these 3 steps:

1. Use smaller plates.
2. Divide the plates into 4 equal portions of vegetables, fruits, grains, and meats/poultry/fish.
3. Watch portion sizes by stacking food no higher than 1 to 1½ inches.

To print out *My Native Plate* placemats showing these steps, go to:

[www.diabetes.ihs.gov](http://www.diabetes.ihs.gov).

Click on *Printable Materials*, *Nutrition*, then *My Native Plate*.



## CPN member Jason Smalley begins his first term at the statehouse



After six years serving in the United States Marine Corps, Citizen Potawatomi member Jason Smalley and his wife C'Anne decided to return to Oklahoma to raise a family. Like most that leave Oklahoma and return, the draws of family, community and friendship were too good to pass up.

“One day I just looked at her and said, ‘Hey if we’re going to

stay here and live here, we’ve got to make a difference,” stated Smalley “We can’t just live in our community and neighborhood and not have an impact on what is going on.’ ”

That conversation was the starting point for Smalley’s run for the state legislature. After receiving a positive reaction from several Lincoln County residents, he made the decision and began his campaign to fill the seat vacated by Danny Morgan. In November, Smalley won the seat for District 32, and began his first term at the state capitol.

A member of the Peltier family on his mother’s side, Smalley is a regular attendee to the tribe’s family reunion events each summer. He says he is impressed at the state of the tribe’s economy and infrastructure he sees upon each visit, progress he

attributes to the leadership of Chairman John Barrett and the CPN government.

The freshman legislator explained that while he would concentrate on issues that affected his constituents in Lincoln County, his Potawatomi heritage will also influence his work at the statehouse. Citing the commercial success of the CPN, Cherokee and other Oklahoma tribes, Smalley noted the overwhelmingly positive economic impact the Native American community has on the state.

Given his focus on funding state transportation infrastructure while maintaining a balanced budget, he was already appointed as the vice chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation by Speaker of the House, T.W. Shannon.

“I think the tribes get a bad rap when it comes to casinos or tobacco taxes and things of that nature,” Smalley added. “But the overall economic impact the tribes bring to the state is immeasurable.”

As federal spending is reigned in, many worry about the Department of Interior looking to cut funding at the tribal level, something that the Stroud native believes would be to the detriment to the state’s economy.

“It’s a ton of money and it’s a ton of jobs. And we have to keep and preserve that,” said Smalley. “It’s what makes us a little unique amongst the 50 states. To do this, I plan on going to bat for my tribe and tribal sovereignty at the least. It’s something that needs to be preserved.”

Smalley encourages political leaders at the state, county

and local level to reach out to tribal communities and develop partnerships, even if their jurisdictions lay outside of official tribal lands. He cited the positive impact the Sac and Fox tribe has had in helping developing projects and funding in his native Lincoln County. The former Marine pointed out the tribes’ importance as members of the communities that surround them.

Indeed, one doesn’t need to look far to see that impact in Pottawatomie County, with CPN being the county’s largest employer and drawing employees from around the surrounding communities.

## Mark McBride, CPN member, begins his first legislative session as state representative



Hoping to see a greater representation of the views of his home district’s constituents, Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Mark McBride decided to run for the state legislature in 2012.

The Moore High School graduate and Northwestern Oklahoma State alumni had worked for years in ranching and farming. Eventually he returned to Moore and took over an established family owned business. Now, he is both owner of McBride Construction and Roofing and McBride Homes, two well-known enterprises in the south Oklahoma City metro area.

In terms of politics, McBride admits his previous government experience was limited, the most involvement he’d had at that point was to cast a vote in elections.

“I wanted to see a change in the district where live and work,” McBride said. “Just being a common sense, business guy, I came in out of the blue. I

wasn’t involved in politics at all really.”

The freshman representative for District 53, which includes the city of Moore and some portions of south Oklahoma City, announced his candidacy for the position in June 2012. He won the Republican run off on June 26. With no Democrats running in opposition, McBride assumed the district seat and began his first term in the legislature in January 2013.

McBride’s main focus at the capitol will be on good government, especially in terms of promoting the wise spending of money.

“I think we should run government like we run our households and that we should

be accountable as everyday citizens are to their loan to the bank for their house,” said McBride.

McBride is a descendant of the Boursaw family from his father’s side and praised the CPN government and people for supporting him in his election bid during the summer. He is looking forward to being a more active participant in the positive relationship between tribes and the state government.

“Look at the Potawatomes, we’re doing great right now. Everything has just exploded out there in the last ten years. That is a good example that things are going well between the tribes and Oklahoma,” declared McBride.

In addition to his primary focus of promoting good governance, he is also interested in the recently created Native American Liaison position created by Governor Fallin last year. He promised he would monitor the role that the newly appointed liaison Jacque Secondine Hensley will take, saying “I would like to know more how she’ll approach her duties as the liaison.”

## Wesselhoft continues tradition of CPN leaders in the State Legislature



An ordained Southern Baptist minister who spent nearly two decades as a U.S. Army Chaplain, Representative Paul Wesselhoft (R) is one of three members of the Statehouse who is also a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Entering his fourth legislature and eighth year there, Wesselhoft represents District 54, which covers Moore and southeast Oklahoma City. Wesselhoft also serves as the Chairman of the General Government Committee, and is an Assistant Majority Floor Leader. In 2004, he cofounded the 21 member

Native American Caucus at the capitol.

His CPN lineage stems from the Burnett family, and Wesselhoft is a descendent of Chief Abram Burnett (1812-70). Chief Burnett was a well-known Potawatomi chief who led the tribe during the turbulent 1860s, and is known for having kept the tribe out of the American Civil War. Wesselhoft’s Indian name, bestowed on him by Vice-Chair Linda Capps, is Naganit meaning leader.

In addition to being an Oklahoma lawmaker, Wesselhoft has been an elected legislator to the Citizen Potawatomi since 2007. He represents District 9, which is Oklahoma.

“Every time I vote in the CPN Legislature, make a governmental decision or exercise leadership in my tribe, I do so in the spirit of Abram Burnett,” said Wesselhoft.

The former Airborne Ranger chaplain served almost two decades in uniform, ministering to soldiers from

Vietnam to Desert Storm. He served as a sergeant during his enlistment years from 1967 to 1969. The U.S. Grant High School alumni spent 16 years as an Army chaplain until retiring as a major in 1995.

Following a seven-year stint working for the Oklahoma State Department of Health, where he was the State Coordinator for the Oklahoma Abstinence Education Project and a member of Governor Frank Keating’s Council for Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy and STDs, Wesselhoft began his career at the Statehouse. He chose to enter state politics out of a desire to be a conservative champion of small enterprises.

“I really admire these business entrepreneurs for the courage they demonstrate daily in such a competitive environment,” he added

Wesselhoft says he believes the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is on the right track when it comes to diversifying its own commercial interests.

“Chairman John Barrett has

done an excellent job leading the tribe’s efforts at building up its business and government. It is really impressive what the Nation’s businesses look like now compared to just a few years ago.”

For the new legislative session, Wesselhoft is considering introducing a bill that would elevate the Office of Native American Affairs to a cabinet position under the governor. His legislation last year created the office of Native American Affairs.

“I have a bill this session in the Oklahoma legislature that would elevate the Office of Native American Affairs to a cabinet post. However, I may wait another year in order to determine if the current secretary will be an effective leader for our Indian population.”

In addition to his chairmanship of the General Government Committee, Wesselhoft is also a member of the committees on Appropriation and Budget, Energy and Aerospace and the Veterans and Military Affairs.

The CPN Legislature appointed Wesselhoft to the Education and Economic Development Committee for the National Congress of American Indians, where he was an elected delegate for the 65th Congress.

Wesselhoft is also an author of numerous articles, essays, short stories, plays and poems, having been published on a number of topics throughout Oklahoma. An Oklahoma City native with degrees from the University of Central Oklahoma, Southern Nazarene University, and Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, he is also an ordained minister of the First Southern Baptist Church of Del City and resides in Moore, Oklahoma.

# Hownikan

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# GOVERNMENT

Nmėbnegises (March 2013)

*People of the Fire*

## Supreme Court Justice Robert Coulter visits CPN eagle aviary

Nestled off of Hardesty Road and a half mile from the North Canadian River, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation aviary resembles a small farm house in the middle of a field of central Oklahoma short grass.

CPN members and sisters Jennifer Randell and Bree Dunham live on site and tend to the aviary’s other full time residents, eight bald eagles. Each bird is in varying states of recovery from injuries or neglect, though most are set to stay permanently, unable to support themselves in the wild.

“For us, it isn’t a job,” said Dunham. “We really want to educate our members and get them back to our culture since we are pretty far removed from our traditions. Vice Chairman Capps was very worried about us having a social life, and we can get out when we want to. But right now, taking care of the eagles is what we want to do.”

The benefit of the aviary is obvious, as the birds’ rapidly improving conditions indicate a high quality of life. For the tribe, the easy availability of eagle feathers for spiritual and religious ceremonies has cut down on a process that takes months or years when going through the National

Eagle Repository in Denver, Colorado. Each feather is naturally molted and are then collected by Randell and Dunham. The sisters clean them by freezing each feather twice, and then smoke them in the traditional Potawatomi medicines of tobacco, sage, and sweet grass. For the time being, eagle feather requests are exclusively for tribal members and are limited to five per order.

The significance of the eagle feather was not lost on a recent visit to the aviary by Vice Chairman Linda Capps and Supreme Court Justice Robert Coulter, who stopped by during a tour of CPN’s commercial and government projects.

After visiting both enclosures, Randell gave Justice Coulter a feather from an eagle named Kyla. The exchange was a moving example of the deep connection between the sacred animal and the Potawatomes. If the brief ceremony were any gauge, then the aviary has already justified its use as spiritual tool for the tribe.

As the weather warms, Randell and Dunham encourage tribal members to come see the aviary and its inhabitants. Tours of no more than 20 are typically kept to Thursdays-

Saturdays, while the rest of the week is reserved for cleaning and general maintenance. There are indoor and outdoor viewing areas which can be used depending on the weather, though the eagles are typically comfortable regardless.

“Bald eagles typically aren’t

bothered by the cold,” says Randell. The only reason they move south is the water sources that hold their food freeze up. So with the exception of a large hail, they are content to be outside just like they would be in the wild.”

The aviary is open to all CPN tribal members by

appointment only. For those interested please contact Jennifer Randell at 405-863-5623 or by email at Jennifer.randell@potawatomi.org.



## Citizen Potawatomi Nation employee working with FEMA

Oklahoma receives more than its fair share of significant weather events during any given year with everything from floods, wildfires, blizzards, tornadoes, drought and even earthquakes impacting the state. In 2011 and 2012 Oklahoma received nearly 40 disaster declarations and is one of only five states to have more than 100 disaster declarations.

CPN began working with FEMA in 2000 after it experienced a loss due to an ice storm after Oklahoma was hit by a crippling snow and ice storm. According to a report by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, the storm impacted more than 120,000 homes, disrupted local water supplies, contributed to at least 27 fatalities and cost the state \$170 million.

Tim Zientek has spearheaded the relationship between CPN and FEMA since 2000 and has contributed to several programs to enhance the preparedness of tribal emergency management departments and has worked to recoup the cost of disaster response for CPN.

“CPN works with FEMA to recover funds spent during disasters,” said Zientek. “The tribe spends on average about \$100,000 per disaster that affects the nation. We work very hard to get as much of the eligible funds back as we can.”

CPN has taken a progressive stance on preventing and planning for disasters, which has made it eligible for preparedness finds, including a \$750,000 grant to construct three community safe rooms. CPN was the sixth tribe in the United States to submit a pre-disaster mitigation plan, which was approved in 2008 and 2010 and includes a preparedness plan that takes

into consideration all hazards the nation could face.

“The training I receive from FEMA has proven to be valuable in helping the Nation to prepare for disasters of all kinds and to help speed the process of recovery from disasters and in some cases either eliminate or at least lessen the impact of disasters,” said Zientek. “I became a FEMA certified instructor for all courses and am now one of the four instructors qualified to train-the-trainer for the tribal courses.”

Zientek helped FEMA create the Native American training courses offered at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmetsburg, Maryland. Zientek also serves on the FEMA Region Six Advisory Council and the Region Six Interagency Steering Committee, which represents 68 tribes in five states.

“These two positions ensure the nation has a voice in the development of policy and direction to maintain a government-to-government relationship with not only FEMA, but on a national level as well,” said Zientek. “I was also involved in helping FEMA update and rewrite their Tribal Policy.”

The training and experience that Zientek has received and CPN’s commitment to the community have allowed the CPN Emergency Management to reach out to form partnerships with the surrounding local jurisdictions, state emergency management agencies and tribal emergency management agencies from across the state. These partnerships allow for a joint response to emergencies and disasters to share resources to better serve the communities we live in.

## Chinese business delegation visits Citizen Potawatomi Nation

A delegation from Shawnee’s Chinese sister city, Jinchang City, recently visited CPN to discuss culture and business. The delegation included the mayor of Jinchang and other municipal officials, as well as the leaders of Jinchuan Group Co. LTD, one of the world’s largest mining and mineral export companies.

The visitors toured the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Cultural Heritage Center, where they met with Chairman John Barrett and discussed the possibility of expanding commercial ties with one another in the future.

“We are currently developing the Iron Horse Industrial Park,” said Chairman Barrett. “This particular project could have a positive impact on enterprises like Jinchuan’s which rely on overland shipping and industrial space.”

Jinchang City, known as “The Nickel City”, is a municipality of about 500,000 people located in northwest China’s Gansu province. Most of its

economy centers on the mining and metallurgy industry, and is home to Jinchuan Group Co., LTD, one of the world’s largest producers of nickel, copper, cobalt and platinum. The city was founded in 1981, and is an example of China’s robust industrial growth over the past thirty years.

“We would like to thank the Chairman for his interest in Jinchuan,” said Yongquan Wang, President of Jinchuan Group. “We invite him to visit us in China so he can get a full understanding of our enterprises from the mining to completed products we make.”

The delegations exchanged gifts during the visit, with Chairman Barrett giving Jinchang Mayor Linping Zang and Wang a traditional Potawatomi gift of a par fleche that contained the four medicines: tobacco, sage, sweet grass, and cedar. The sacred medicines are used in tribal prayers and ceremonies, and were offered as prayers for good health and blessings.

Establishing Shawnee in the sister city program was the idea of former mayor Chuck Mills (2004-08), who now leads the Governor’s International Team in addition to his duties as President of Shawnee-based Mills Machine Co. Early in his term as mayor, Mills attended the anniversary party for Oklahoma and its Chinese sister state, Gansu. Representatives from Jinchang City were at the event and Mills helped lay the groundwork for an eventual visit by Chinese officials in 2007. Given the added benefits of doing business on tribal land and the CPN’s own expanding commercial enterprises, Mills and Chairman Barrett agreed to sign the memorandum of understanding as partners in the sister city program with Jinchang City.

“I set it up to do business,” said Mills. “I wanted them to bring business here, and we could take business there. Hopefully at some point, we can get out to Jinchang City and have a visit of our own.”



A delegation from SISTER CITY came to visit Citizen Potawatomi Nation January 11, 2013. From left to right: Zhongyuan Tian, Safety Chief of Jinchuan Group Titanium Plant; Xibin Liang, General Manager of Jinchuan Group Titanium Plant; Wanhua Wu, Deputy Secretary of Gansu Provincial Assets Supervision and Administration Commission; Lingping Zang, Secretary of Jinchang Municipal Party Commission; John Barrett, Chairman of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation; Charles Mills, Chairman of the Governor’s International Team; Yongquan Wang, President of Jinchuan Group; Yusheng Zheng, Vice director of Gansu Provincial Assets Supervision and Administration Commission; Shuli Yi, General Manager of Jinchuan Group Planning Department; Chonzheng Yang, General Manager of Jinchuan USA.



## District 2 Legislator Eva Marie Carney attends Obama inauguration

I had a bird's-eye view from which to watch President Obama's recent swearing in ceremony – from the chambers of U.S. District Court Judge Emmet G. Sullivan. Judge Sullivan was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to serve as an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in the 1980s and later was “promoted” to the District Court; he shared judicial chambers with “my” judge Bob Richter back then. As you can see from the photos, his office is well-located for inauguration viewing. All the same, while we were close enough to realize that the TV coverage of the ceremony was on a 10-second or so delay, watching the events on TV, rather than peering at them through binoculars, proved to be the way to go! I hope you enjoy this array of photos from the day.



The U.S. Capitol, seen from Judge Sullivan's office.



Outside the U.S. District Courthouse, Washington D.C.



Brunch celebrating the inaugural ceremony, hosted by Judge Sullivan's family and friends.



Crowds continuing to swell just ahead of the swearing in ceremony.



Legislator Eva Marie Carney posing outside Ford's Theatre, on her way to the Inauguration.



Televised broadcast of President Obama's inauguration speech.



Walking vegetables conveyed PETA's message to the crowds.



Anarchist protestors organized themselves (not!) during the day's events.

## Regional Meeting



Pamela Pertl of Nuevo, CA from the Barshaw family; Gerri and Bill Wood-Hermann of Coronado, CA. Gerri's heritage family is Juneau.



Samantha, Paul, and Zachary LeClaire of Huntington Beach, CA



Alex, Cassandra, and Lyric Pastrano; Kylan Pope; Josh Pawley; Killian and Sydney Tschuor; and Micah Pawley. All pictured are relatives and are descendants of the Wilmette family.



Xander, Tom, and Sierra Oles live in Henderson, Nevada. They are descendants of the Bourbonnais and Tescier Families.



The wisest tribal member in attendance is 89 year-old Betty Crook from Laguna Niguel, CA; a member of the Juneau family.



Nita Freer of Prescott, AZ traveled the longest distance. She is shown with Chairman Barrett and her sister Judy Fernandez of El Cajon, CA.



Chairman John Barrett holds the youngest member present, Anasophia Crumbo, 8 months old, daughter of Scott and Andrea Crumbo.



Mason and Beverly McDonough of San Diego are descendants of the Neddeau family



Secretary-Treasurer D. Wayne Trousdale, Norman, OK; Theresa Dillman, El Cajon, CA and Nadine Weishan, El Cajon.



Deanna Neves, Marcene Spencer, Alfred Neves, Cynthia Willis, Veronica Krikorian, Steve Willis, and Michelle Murray. These tribal members are descendants of the Rhodd, Bruno, Delonais families.



Doris Rowe and her daughter-in-law Wynona Rowe of Camarillo, CA. Doris is a descendant of the Ogee family.



Jason Greenwalt, Shawnee, OK; Jennifer Young, North Hollywood; CA District 6 Legislator Rande Payne, Visalia, CA; and Secretary-Treasurer D. Wayne Trousdale, Norman, OK.



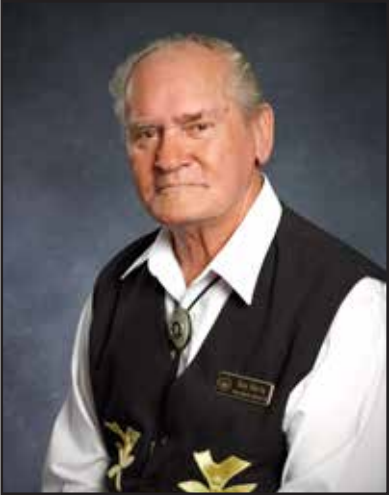
Jack Wistos, San Diego, CA; Vivian and Michael Bourbonnais, Fresno, CA; and Chairman Barrett, Shawnee, OK.



Diana Lorne and John from San Diego, CA. Diana is a descendant of the Kime family. They were scheduled to Attend a Scotland celebration.



District 1 - Roy Slavin



Hello,

I have written of the many facilities at our headquarters in Shawnee, Okla. in past articles. This time I will single out just two of those facilities that I had the pleasure of visiting on a recent trip Shawnee.

First is the Cultural Heritage Center which is the home of our language department and tribal rolls office, which is an excellent library for genealogy research. There is also a gift shop filled with Native American articles that can also be purchased from an online catalog at [www.firelakegifts.com](http://www.firelakegifts.com). As you enter the cultural center, you will be greeted by a very nice lady, Mary Powell who well direct you to whatever it is you are looking for.

On your left is the gift shop; while to the right is a very large auditorium that has been used for general council meetings in past years. This room has the wall of honor that has pictures of CPN veterans who have served our country. There is also a kiosk where you can hear recordings of them talking of their service history.

If you go straight ahead upon entering, you will pass through a door that serves as a time machine which will take you into the past where you will see life size scenes of our ancestors as the lived prior to European contact. This very impressive display is the work of Penny Coats and the staff of the Cultural Heritage Center.

The next facility I would like to talk about is the FireLake Family Bowling Center. The reason I made the last trip to Shawnee was my wife Julia’s birthday on January 19. Our daughter Verna, who lives in Shawnee, had planned a surprise birthday party for her there and had a very nice room used for meetings and parties. I have bowled at FireLake lanes before and was always impressed with the state-of-the- art equipment and the well-kept lanes, but was not aware

of the room there available for meetings and parties.

General Manager Chris Skilings, set up everything and checked in several times during the evening to see that everything was going ok. Given that it is called FireLake Family Resort and Bowling Center, family is the operative word. There are 24 state of the art lanes and an arcade for those who don’t bowl. If hungry, there is a Subway restaurant and San Remo’s Pizza. When you are in Shawnee for festival, be sure to check out the Cultural Heritage Center and FireLake Bowl, you won’t be disappointed.

On another note I am happy to say that while my present term is about to expire, I have filed for another. I am also happy to report that I am unopposed, so I will proudly serve another four years and wish to thank you so much for the honor of allowing

me to do so.

I will end this article as always by saying that if you do not receive mail or e-mail from me, it is because I do not have your contact information. Due to privacy issues, the Nation cannot supply me with that information. I can be reached by phone or at the address below. Also if you have moved please update your change of address with me and the Nation.

Megwetch

Netagtege (always planting)

Roy Slavin

Representative

District 1

816-741-5767

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Kansas City, Mo. 64151

District 2 - Eva Marie Carney



Bozho nikan (Hello friends)!

It’s time for the 4th annual District 2 New Year contest.

The first contest year, folks were asked to submit stories about their use of CPN ID cards (our dear elder Stella Malone of Florida won my heart with her story about showing her ID card whenever she donates blood). The next year, I held a photo contest – the task was to capture a “Potawatomi” location somewhere in District 2 and send me a photo of it (Sarah Copeland, also of Florida, won that one, with a photo her beau took of her at the Cummer Art Gallery in Jacksonville, looking lovely and vital sometime after her heart transplant). Last year was the year of "A Good Woman," when I asked folks to submit photos of strong, good

women in our lives (Virginian Bob Richey won that won with a photo of his mother, CPN member Doris Richey, receiving the Soldiers Medal for her bravery while serving during World War II as an Army nurse in the European theater).

This year is a food year.

No, I am not looking to fill my freezer with your delicious entries, but I am searching for great (and healthy, if possible) family recipes that I can compile into a Potawatomi-flavored cookbook if I get enough entries. Contest incentives are that everyone who submits an entry (one per person, please) will receive a copy of the cookbook, and there will be a drawing from all CPN District 2 entries for a special prize, selected at random from all of the District 2 entries. Recognition on my website and in the Hownikan will follow, too! You don’t have to live in District 2 to enter, but to win the special prize you do need to be in District 2.

Please accompany the recipe with information on its source and specify any connection the recipe has to your Potawatomi heritage. Please also be sure to include your "snail mail" address so I can mail you a copy of the cookbook. The contest deadline is April 15, and I will announce the prize winner and

print some of my favorites in the May column. If you are not sure about which 13 states make up District 2, log onto my website, [www.evamariecarney.com](http://www.evamariecarney.com), and click on “Our District” – the states outlined in black are District 2 states! You can send the recipe by email attachment or in the regular U.S. mail.

For fun I’m also announcing the contest under “Events” on my Facebook page, so you can visit that page to refresh yourself on the details. I’d be pleased to have many more Potawatomi Facebook friends so please friend me today (and put CPN in your friend request message). Also, if you are in District 2 we have a private Facebook page for discussions/postings among District 2 members -- there's close to 100 of us subscribed to that private page. Please send me a note if you are on Facebook and would like to join that private group.

I look forward to trying your recipes in the Carney-Cohen (Arlington, Virginia) test kitchen, and to reading your accounts of the source of the recipes. Thanks in advance for contributing to our CPN community by participating in the contest.

Upcoming visiting opportunities.

By the time you read this I

will have seen a number of you (I hope) in either Fort Walton Beach, Florida or Galveston, Texas, during the Executive Branch’s Tribal Area Gatherings in February. (You may also meet Anthony Cole during one of these meetings, the gentleman challenging me for the District 2 legislative position in the upcoming election.) I am working on a plan for a Little Rock, Arkansas meeting that I will host in the spring, with help from Dixie Quinn (formerly a student at the University of West Georgia, where my brother and sister-in-law taught). Dixie just earned her J.D. at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and is studying for the bar exam; I’m grateful she has time to help with the meeting planning. Also, I just agreed to speak at a securities-law-focused conference in Nashville, Tennessee in mid-April and thought it made sense to stay through the weekend and host a get-together/lunch for CPN members there on Saturday, April 13. That meeting will be in Murfreesboro, just outside of Nashville. I will also attend the Tribal Area Gathering in Branson, Missouri that next weekend. Look for mailed invitations to these meetings if they are near your home, and for location/timing details on my website and/or under News & Event on the CPN website.

Finally, I recently got word that the executive branch plans to host another Tribal Area Gathering in Baltimore, Maryland on May 4. I plan to attend that meeting, as does Legislator Roy Slavin, who represents District 1 and expects to see folks there from Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York, New Jersey, and other points north (all in District 1), as well as from “my” District 2. It will be a great spring full of visits and information sharing!

All this being said, I appreciate that many of you will not have the opportunity to travel to these meetings. If you have questions, comments, or ideas to share with me I hope you will do so through email, phone, or letter. Please don’t be put off by the distance between us. Building our CPN community in District 2 continues to be my top priority as your Legislator.

Kindest regards,

Eva Marie Carney/*Ojindiskwe* (Bluebirdwoman)

Legislator District 2

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District 3 - Robert Whistler



Bozho:

The last two months my column has covered the area of applying for college scholarships. In January I wrote that you needed to have the FAFSA application completed by January 1 of each year. What I should have advised is that it cannot be started until after January 1 of each year.

Fortunately, one of our Nations members in District 6 called that to my attention. But more importantly, she mentioned that there is a linking feature that allows for the students and parents federal tax returns to be directly linked to the FAFSA document. She advised that electronic signatures speed up the process and you can get a pin for that. The site for the pin is [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov), or you can go through the FAFSA link to secure it as an alternative. However, waiting to go though FAFSA may slow down the process, so it is recommended that you get the pin beforehand. You need to complete the FAFSA application each year to maintain eligibility

for that financial aid.

A few weeks ago, I attended a scholarship workshop in Claremore, Okla. hosted by Cara Cowen Watts, and the Cherokee Nation Foundation. She covered some items that may result in your being dropped from consideration by the college or organization that oversees awarding scholarships. When you have filed your application, they are going to look not only at your application, grade transcripts, and letters of recommendation from others, but also your profiles on the social sites you may use like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, I Google, and Pinterest. Keep in mind your network of friends and what you post on any of these sites reflects upon you. Delete MySpace!

An email name like “HotDude4U” or some other provocative address is immature and is not what you want to project! If there are pictures of you on a site holding an adult beverage, or you’re in an embarrassing position, or using off color language, get it off the site! This is a serious time and you must be conservative and above reproach.

If you have had any type of job, then you should create a résumé. Be sure that if you plan to attach it to any email that you have set it up in PDF format. If you just attach a document and there is any issue with the download, it could look like it was hit with a chainsaw and it may be all chopped up! Be sure

to proof read and spell check everything! A typo, grammatical error, or incorrectly spelled word is a critical mistake! Have someone else read and proof read what you wrote! You must not seek perfection but you must be perfect, just like your competition! Practice doing interviews by having a friend or parent conduct a mock interview.

Colleges are looking at your grade transcripts for the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades of high school. They will look critically at the 10th and 11th grades to see if you are showing that you have tenacity and drive which is needed to get through their program. A suggested high school preparatory college set of courses might be:

- English – 4 years
- Math – 4 years
- Science – 3 years minimum
- Social studies/history – 4 years
- Foreign Language – 3 years

In the foreign language area, it is best to stay with the same language, since it shows you are serious and will stick with a program. This can be reinforced by also playing a musical instrument for three or more years. If you are planning on pre-medical, pre-dental or engineering, then four years of science is needed.

Getting into a good college and securing scholarships and financial aid is a major undertaking and planning is a must. For those of you who are in middle school, setup a file or

scrapbook. You need to save a copy of every award or ribbon or acknowledgement. By setting up a system, when the time comes, you will be able to find all that you need to fill out the various forms needed.

Failing to plan is planning to fail! Keep a calendar of deadlines. Some of the programs may be available to you only once in a lifetime! The Gates scholarship is one of those and it is worth \$250,000. It is only available for application by the middle of January when you are a senior year in high school. If you miss the deadline, regardless of the reason, it is lost forever! There is no second chance.

I know there is a lot to digest in what I have presented. But if you have a question, just send me an email. I am not a counselor, but I will get you answers if they are out there.

Before closing let me advise you that I am working with the Cherokee Nation Foundation on two projects. One in my capacity as the chairman of the Education and Mentoring Committee of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Texas, the other as a Representative for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. For AICCT, we hope to hold a scholarship workshop for all Native Americans in Texas the last weekend in April. If that is successful, then I’ll see if we can put the same thing together for a workshop in Shawnee for our students in Oklahoma.

As a final note, I have filed for re-election this coming June and am honored to have been the

District 3 Representative for the last four years. I thank you for the privilege of serving you. I again ask for your email contact so that I may get information out to you that may lapse before the next edition of the Hownikan can be written and distributed. Just this last month, each of the representatives sent out emails on how to contact the Cobell settlement group to determine if you are one of the 400,000 Native Americans eligible for some of the \$1.9 billion award. It starts at \$1,000 per eligible person.

You may contact the Indian Trust Settlement office to see if you are eligible by calling 1-888-678-6836. The deadline for contacting them is March 2013. This is just one of those types of things that surface that we need to send out email notifications on quickly. So please give me the tool I need to keep you current on what is happening day-to-day.

Bama pi (later),

Bob Whistler/Bmashi

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

District 3 Representative

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District 4 - Theresa Adame



Bozho

Because of the deadlines for the newspaper you might be reading my article St. Patrick’s Day but I am writing it in the middle of January. I have already forgotten my New Year’s resolution but thought it would be a good

time to review the past year.

My family has seen many changes. My oldest daughter was married, my husband and I moved to a new house, and my youngest daughter is expecting a baby making me a Grandmother for the first time. I will finally be one of those ladies the Chairman wrote about last month with instincts and experience that people should look to for guidance.

I have also seen even more changes in my first full term as legislator. I do not know if there has been a time of more growth in such a short time or if I am only more aware of it because of my position.

The biggest change has to be

the addition of the 14 floor hotel attached to our casino. I can remember for years sitting in regional meetings and hearing that this was going happen someday. Well that day is here and to have been a part it has been fulfilling. I will have fond memories of climbing up the construction ladder several floors before there was an elevator or walls. I am sure I will enjoy the view even more when it is complete and bringing in a income for the tribe.

Every time I return to Shawnee I see the completion of yet another construction project. Be it the arena, the softball complex, clinic, water tower the list seems to go on and on.

But the two changes that have made the biggest effect to the people of Kansas had been the

establishment and expansion of the Senior Care Network and the Health Aids Foundation.

I see and hear on a regular basis how the support from the tribe has changed the lives of our elders. I know that we have become a community that looks out for each other and gives our elders the respect and help they need.

It has sometimes been a struggle for me as a representative of the tribe who has no tribal lands in the State. I respect the tribes who are in Kansas but have had a discussion with the Governors’ Native American Liaison about the blood degree requirement for fishing and hunting license. I did not receive a favorable response as the timing was not right as some changes were already being made in

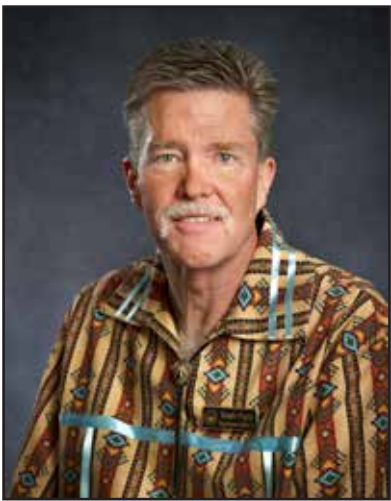
the legislative session in the Fish and Game Department. I will continue to have this discussion but know the Kansas tribes require a blood degree.

While I am looking back over the years that I have represented the tribe I in no way expect this to be the end of my service. I know I can continue to be an outspoken person that has your best interest in mind and look forward to the changes my next term brings.

My e-mail list continues to grow. If you want to be informed of the activities and news for the tribe please send me an e-mail to [Tadame@Potawatomi.org](mailto:Tadame@Potawatomi.org).

Theresa Adame  
CPN Legislator Kansas  
785-861-7272

District 6 - Rande Payne



Bozho Nikanek,

I hope you all are doing well. Thought I might begin with asking how it’s going with your New Year resolutions? I had no resolutions this year, as for me, they have been mostly unproductive. I’ve enjoyed some success with diet and exercise but found I just wasn’t motivated to improve further

after the results of a recent physical exam indicated I was in good health. In some ways that’s a little unfair because I certainly didn’t strain much to earn that grade! But I am very thankful none the less. Whatever you may have resolved to do, I wish you the best!

The Tribal Area Gathering in Temecula was just delightful for me. The five plus hour drive in the rain in bumper to bumper Friday night traffic was absolutely worth it! I want to thank all who were able to come. And come you did! What an amazing turn out. The weather seemed to have no effect on attendance or spirits. I had a fantastic time talking with everyone. It amazes me how fast the time goes at those gatherings. Five hours just isn’t long enough to get the meeting in and fellowship with everyone.

Chairman Barrett always has such energy about him. You don’t have to be around Rocky very long to realize he is extremely passionate about anything and everything Potawatomi! Chairman Barrett’s presentation provided a great mix of history, culture, benefits and enterprise as well as vision for the future. I can’t imagine anyone leaving that meeting with anything less than an overwhelming sense of Potawatomi pride!

As always, I enjoyed every minute of time I got to spend with the folks that came out from tribal headquarters in Shawnee. I know I’ve said it before and maybe I’m even preaching to the choir a little but I’ll say it again. We are so blessed with great leadership. Vice Chairman Linda Capps is pure joy to be around. We are all the beneficiaries of her heart and soul’s desire to put others first. The Tecumseh, Oklahoma

Chamber of Commerce absolutely got it right when they recently honored Ms. Capps as Citizen of the Year for 2012.

“The Citizen of the Year Award is awarded to one individual who has been out there day after day, week after week, promoting Tecumseh,” said Aaron O’Rorke, executive chamber, Tecumseh Chamber of Commerce.

Congratulations Vice Chairman Capps!

For anyone outside of District 6 that might be reading this, I would highly recommend contacting your representative for gathering information for your district. It may require a little time and effort to get there but it is, in my opinion, time and energy well spent!

Did you know that the tribe’s website recently underwent a total makeover? I find the new look fresh and appealing with

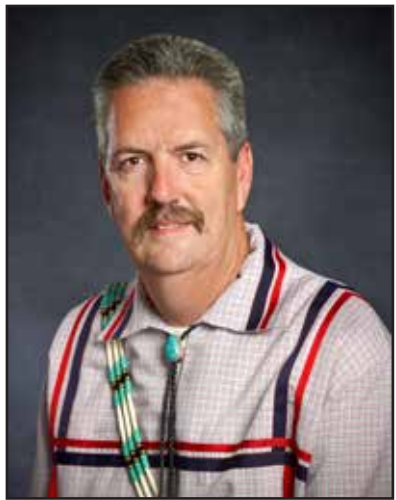
the information well organized. Nicely done! Give it a look: [www.potawatomi.org](http://www.potawatomi.org).

I am proud to be Potawatomi and honoured to serve as your Representative. Until next time...

“Keep on loving each other as brothers.” Hebrews 13:1

Bama pi,  
  
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District 7 - Mark Johnson



Bozho,

Spring is well under way in District 7, with that the Northern California Tribal Area Gathering has been scheduled for Saturday March 9 in

Sacramento. I would like to encourage you to attend if possible, it is your chance to hear firsthand about what is happening with your tribe and to get the answers to any questions you may have. It is also a wonderful opportunity to learn about our traditions and history or just meet other members from the area. Please take the opportunity to join us.

The annual Family Reunion Festival is also rapidly approaching and it's never too early to make plans with your family to attend the gathering in Shawnee. This year's celebration runs from June 28-30. The Honored Families for 2013 will be the Johnson, Lafromboise, LaReau, Melott, Rhodd, Tescier, Weld and Young families. Activities range from arts and crafts to sporting

and cultural events including the popular hand games. If you are planning to attend and would like to participate in the hand games on Friday evening, I would like to organize a District 7 hand game team, so please give me a call if you are interested. Saturday’s highlights are the afternoon General Council meeting in the long room at the Cultural Heritage Center and the evening Grand Entry at the festival grounds.

I would also like to remind our members that the deadlines for Scholarship Applications will be here before you know it. Summer session applications and paperwork are due June 1 and fall semester applications are due August 1. It is never too early to get them filled out. For full time students, up to \$1500 is available, and for

part-time students up to \$750 is available. Also remember that students who receive a Tribal Scholarship are also eligible to receive \$675 for the fall and spring semesters from the Student Housing Assistance Program to assist with living expenses.

The Nation has also launched the wonderfully updated Citizen Potawatomi Nation website at [www.potawatomi.org](http://www.potawatomi.org) so please take the time to visit the site that contains a wealth of information about your tribe.

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need to

access tribal benefits that you are entitled to. Please also take the time to give me a call or send me an email with your contact information so that I can keep you informed of the happenings within the Nation and District.

Migwetch,  
  
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Anthony Cole  
Candidate - Citizen Potawatomi - District 2



Who am I?

My Potawatomi name is Kokotni, I am a descendant of the Yott family which is a maternal branch of the Vieux family. I currently reside in New Orleans where I own an interactive media company. I currently serve as President of the St. Bernard Kiwanis Club and I am very active in my community.

Where do I come from?

I was born in Durant OK and raised in Madill OK. After high school, I joined the United States Marine Corps where I specialized in aviation logistics and data processing. After being honorably discharged, I used the G.I. Bill to earn a degree in Computer Science from the Southeast College of Technology.

Why am I running for office?

I am running for office as a way to give back for all that I have received as a Native American. While growing up my family fell on many hard times, it was the generosity of the Potawatomi, Choctaw and Chickasaw that helped us in our time of need. Because we belonged to the Potawatomi, my family was provided food, medical care, school supplies and jobs. I credit this assistance for my current success and feel strongly that I must repay that generosity in the form of community service.

What will I do if elected?

- Keep you informed of all tribal matters in a format that is easy to understand and readily available.
- Aggressively promote our heritage and culture by leveraging technology to educate our members and bridge our geographic divide.
- Support and encourage community service within our district. Community service is important and I want to organize an “all district” community service project each year.
- Improve your quality of life. I will work to expand our tribal services and think of new innovative ways to offer more services to our members that do not live in Oklahoma.



District 8 - Dave Carney



Greetings from District 8!

Well, I spent one Sunday afternoon in late January cleaning the District 8 Office and organizing things. At the end of last year, especially during the holidays, I have to admit that things got a little out of hand. Boxes of left over giveaways from the November Fall Feast got haphazardly put on the entryway table and spread to other surfaces. “Hello, my name is” tags had been thrown into a bag with CPN business card, small bags of ceremonial tobacco and sharpie pens. Printed copies of resolutions and other legislative documents piled up on the corner of my desk from various meetings and coffee cups piled up in the sink. Garbage cans needed to be emptied. In general, things needed attention ...and I finally had the time to tackle it.

While going through the process of sorting these items I thought

about my very interesting job of legislator. It is also election season, motivating me to write about what it is like to be a legislator in a district outside of Oklahoma. The simple act of cleaning the office made me got me focused on appreciating the diverse nature of the job!

First of all, as I have told tribal members considering running for the Legislature, it is one of the most interesting part-time jobs that I can imagine. It has been my experience that the position, or at least how I perform my duties, is roughly one third counselor/benefit coordinator, one third outreach and one third elected member of the Legislature (making or passing resolution or ordinances).

There is no typical day, however, several times a week I stop by the CPN District 8 office before my “regular job” to get the mail. Several times during the course of the week I will check voice mails and return calls from District 8 members. Throughout the week, I receive e-mails from members on a variety of topics. Some of the typical requests are:

- 1. How do I find out what benefits I am entitled to?
- 2. I’ve lost my tribal ID card, how do I get a new one?
- 3. Where can I find cultural information?
- 4. How can I access Indian Health Services for healthcare or dental care?

5. I’d like to request some genealogy assistance.

Many times I am able to point members to my website in order to have them download the appropriate form or something of cultural significance. By the way, the address is [www.dave-carney.com](http://www.dave-carney.com).

Occasionally, there will be a unique inquiry or request that stumps me, and for that, I usually call upon the heart of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Vice Chairman Linda Capps. Linda either knows the answer or can point me in the right direction. Sometimes I am astonished by her enthusiasm to assist the members after so many years on the job. I am always impressed by the long hours and dedication she puts in.

As far as out-reach is concerned, I think the expansive geography of District 8 makes for a unique (and fun) challenge. In approximately three years, my tribal travel has taken me to various parts of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. I’ve taken seriously the challenge of getting out to meet the members throughout the district and I feel that I’ve been richly rewarded for the effort. I have made a lot of new friends while building the district community. Members are enthusiastic about having their representative government come to them, and it has been the most rewarding part of the job.

The government function of a legislator and the legislative body is best explained: The Legislature speaks and acts as the legislative branch of the tribal government. It has all general powers not delegated by the Tribal Constitution to other entities. The Tribal Constitution limits the ability of the Legislature to speak and act on behalf of the tribe except by resolution or ordinance. The ability to appropriate tribal funds, create tribal employment positions or departments, or contract on behalf of the tribe are powers reserved only to the Legislature. The authority to hire legal counsel for the tribe is reserved to the Legislature.

There are sixteen members of the Legislature, including the three members of the executive branch. These three executives head eight legislative committees and each member is on various committees. These include Rules and Government, Judiciary and Public Safety, Health and Human Services, Natural Resources, Education, Tribal Culture and Arts, Economic Development and Commerce, and Appropriations and Budgets. My committees are Judiciary and Public Safety, Education, and Appropriations and Budgets. These committees work in person, via e-mail, on the telephone and on the Nation’s teleconferencing equipment prior to the legislative meetings that you may watch the video of. There are four quarterly meetings and one additional meeting immediately following the Family Festival at the

end of June. There is a lot of documentation that goes with each resolution. There are maps and aerial photographs that accompany fee to trust resolutions for example. Budgets are between 150 and 200 pages in length. I’m just old enough that I like to print out a lot of these rather than read them on the computer screen.

Cleaning out the office gave me a chance to go through stacks of thank you cards, legislative documents, Christmas cards and letters. At the end of this marathon cleaning I had three bags of trash and one large archive box of confidential papers to be shredded. I burned through a roll of paper towels a container of Chlorox wipes and half a bottle of Windex.

2013 is off to a clean start!

I want to thank the members of District 8 who accepted my invitation to join the District 8 Facebook Group. We are now at 101 members and still growing. If you get a moment and live in the district, please consider joining us.

Migwetch,

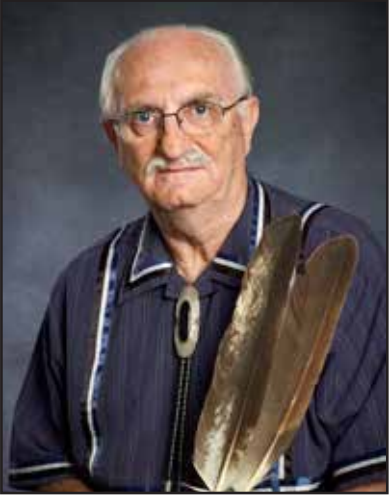
Dave Carney/Kagashi (Raven)

District 8 Representative

[www.dave-carney.com](http://www.dave-carney.com)

[dcarney@potawatomi.org](mailto:dcarney@potawatomi.org)

District 9 - Paul Wesselhoft



Bozho, Nikan,

THE INDIAN HEADDRESS

I recently saw a young non-Indian boy wearing an Indian headdress playing in the company of his parents. The parents acted like they enjoyed the child’s frolicking.

The Indian headdress is reserved for our spiritual elders who have spent a lifetime earning the right to wear it. The

Indian headdress is spiritual and sacred. It is not a toy. It would make no difference if the young boy were Native American. His parents should have taught him how to respect the Native American culture.

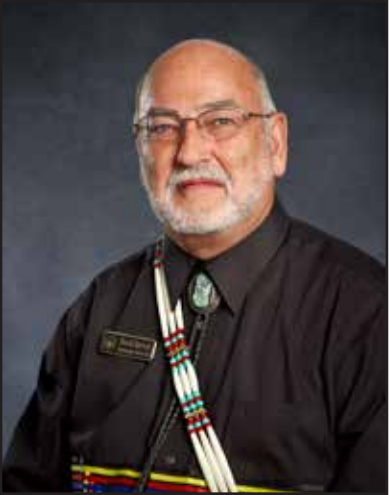
The Indian headdress is not just some pointless hat for you or your child to parade around on holidays and at sporting events. Let me put it this way, if you are Catholic, it would be the equivalent of seeing a Baptist wearing the Pope’s mitre or a cleric’s collar. Perhaps, if

you think of it that way it will make more sense. The Indian headdress is spiritual and sacred. All should respect it and what it historically stands for.

Migwetch.

Paul Wesselhoft/Naganit (Leader)

District 10 - David Barrett



Bozho,

While I was traveling this last summer, I found myself very perplexed one morning. When we arrived at the restaurant I checked to see if I had my billfold before going in for breakfast. My billfold was neither in my pocket nor in the console of the car where it is easily reached. We proceeded to move our search to our luggage with no success. Panic started to creep to the forefront. We immediately rushed back to the hotel (just a few blocks away) to ask them to check our room since we had already checked out. Going with them to the room, we checked around with the cleaning staff. After consulting with the desk clerk and searching the room, we didn’t find it.

Now we were back in the parking lot of the hotel, what were we to do? In the parking lot, we started what might have looked from observers as a drug raid. We emptied everything out of our suit cases and packages on the seats and on the parking lot, hoping to find it under the seats or in a bag with our snacks.

No billfold.

We had one last duffle bag with our dirty clothes.

No more stress to you guys, we

found it. It was in my dirty slacks in the dirty clothes bag. I always remove my billfold at night from the clothes that I had on; however, my wife wanted a map from the car so I put my slacks back on and grabbed my billfold. Well when I came back to the room, I took my slacks off and placed them back in the dirty clothes bag where I had gotten them.

Why am I telling you this? Well from the shock of losing your billfold, can you remember what all that you have inside it or your purse? Being so thankful after finding it, I realized I couldn’t recall all the items that were in it.

The thought that I might lose my billfold or somebody steals it became paramount to relieve some of the stress. With just your name and Social Security number, identity thieves can open new credit accounts and make costly purchases in your name.

Consumer-protection advocates identify eight things you should purge from you wallet immediately to limit your risk in case it is lost or stolen. When you’re finished removing you wallet’s biggest information leaks, take a moment to photocopy everything you’ve left inside, front and back. Stash the copies in a secure location at home or in a safe-deposit box. The last thing you want to be wondering as you’re reporting a stolen wallet is, “What exactly did I have in there?”

1. Your Social Security Card

Your nine-digit Social Security number is all a savvy ID thief needs to open new credit card accounts or loans in your name. ID-theft experts say your Social Security card is the absolute worst item to carry around and anything with the number on it.

Retirees, pull out your Medicare card, too, because it has you SSN on it. Instead: Photocopy your Medicare card (front and back),

make a copy and black out the last four digits of your SSN, and carry it with you instead of your real card

2. Password Cheat Sheet

The average American uses at least seven different passwords (and probably should use even more to avoid repeating them on multiple sites/accounts). Ideally, each of those should be unique combination of letters, numbers, and symbols, and you should change them regularly.

However, carrying your ATM card’s PIN number and a collection of passwords (especially those for online access to banking and investment accounts) on a scrap of paper in your wallet is a prescription for financial disaster.

If you have to keep passwords jotted down somewhere, keep them in a locked box in you house. Or consider an encrypted mobile app.

3. Spare Keys

A lost wallet containing your home address (found on your driver’s license) and a spare key is an invitation for burglars to do far more harm than just opening a credit card in your name. Don’t put your property and family at risk. You’ll likely spend \$100+ in locksmith fees to change the locks for peace of mind.

4. Checks

Blank checks are an obvious risk if you carry extra in your wallet.

Only carry paper checks when you will absolutely need them and bring the exact amount of checks you anticipate needing that day.

5. Passport

A government-issued photo ID such as a passport opens up a world of possibilities for an ID thief. Thieves would love to get this. You could use it for

anything including traveling in your name, opening bank accounts or even getting a new copy of your Social Security card.

Carry only your driver’s license or other personal ID while traveling inside the United States. When you’re overseas, photocopy your passport and leave the original in the hotel lock box.

6. Multiple Credit Cards

Although you shouldn’t cancel credit cards altogether (those who regularly carry a card tend to have higher credit scores than those who don’t), consider a lighter load. After all, the more you carry, the more you’ll have to cancel if your wallet is lost or stolen.

Maintain a list, someplace other than your wallet, with all the cancellation numbers for your credit cards. They are typically listed on the back of your cards, but that won’t do you much good when your wallet is nowhere to be found.

7. Birth Certificate

The birth certificate itself won’t get ID thieves very far. However, birth certificates could be used in correlation with other types of fraudulent IDs. Once you have those components, you can do the same things you could with a passport or a Social Security card.

Be especially cautious on occasions such as your mortgage closing when you may need to present your birth certificate, Social Security card and other important documents at once. Take time to take them home, and don’t leave them in your car.

8. Stacks of Receipts

Businesses may not print anything containing your credit or debit card’s expiration date or more than the last five digits of your credit card number. Still,

a crafty thief can use the limited credit card info and merchant information on receipts to phish for your remaining number.

Clear those receipts out each night, shredding the ones you don’t need.

Guess what? A few months later I was back home and pulled into a service station and tried to use my credit card in the gas pump. The gas pump machine wasn’t taking credit cards at that moment. When I went inside to tell the clerk, she told me to hand her my credit card and she would turn the pump on. I begin filling my car and was almost finished when I saw her running out of the store in pursuit of a car that was leaving. She came back into the store as I was making my way to pay and told me that my credit card was stolen by the man in the car and she was calling the police. Fortunately my wife was with me so I got the telephone number from her card to call American express and we reported it was stolen a few minutes ago.

Hope these safety reminders will make you more aware before you encounter a panic attack like I had this last summer. I hadn’t done most of the things that I should have been doing. My wallet is still kept close to my heart and if a day comes again instead of having another panic attack, hopefully it will only be a minor set back. Hope this will also give you a better peace of mind knowing you have also taken steps to manage a terrible occurrence.

It goes without saying that it is both a pleasure and an honor to serve you and our great Nation.

Migwetch,

David Barrett/Mnedobe (Sits with the Spirit)

Oklahoma Legislature, District #10

[DBarrett@Potawatomi.org](mailto:DBarrett@Potawatomi.org)



# Legislative Columns

District 11 - Lisa Kraft



HEARTH Act: Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership

On July 30, 2012, American Indian Nations were given back their privilege of leasing their own lands. Tribes won this long battle with the passage of the

HEARTH Act. The HEARTH Act, signed by President Obama, removes the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) from the administrative review process and the subsequent approval of tribal leasing requests. Prior to this law, the Secretary of the Interior could hold up signing tribal leases for years and at significant risk to tribal investment opportunities. It also prohibited tribes from fostering home-ownership on reservation lands.

Our Chairman is working to provide the Legislature with draft leasing regulations that prescribe to the BIA regulations (25 CFR Part 162). And we, in turn, will begin looking at our land holdings with a new “set of eyes.” Part of the process to gain Secretarial approval to lease our own lands includes taking on more environmental

review responsibilities. We will need to consider expanding both our Environmental and Real Estate Services departments. To keep up with all of the new opportunities, there is even a greater need to create new tribal departments of Legislative Affairs and Executive Management, as the Chairman talked about in his last column.

From business development, zoning, and marketing to leasing (public notice and advertising), debt collecting, and monitoring for compliance, there are so many things to consider while we formulate new tribal leasing regulations. The road is now paved to really spread our wings.

The HEARTH Act may just be the catalyst we need to become a more active Legislature. Last spring, I introduced a bill

to increase compensation to the Executive and Legislative branches to bring them up to industry standards, especially for what our Executive branch does and the continued progress to come. With an increase, I envision your Legislature having a more active role in the development and lawmaking of our Nation. We will need to understand many things through direct experience and alongside the Chairman now that he is transitioning these next four years. I also think our legislative roles and compensation should make other members want to run for office. We need the views and experience of our members to keep our Citizen Potawatomi Nation bounding in the future. Tribal land leasing is a way we can bring more of our people back, seasonally or permanently, and for more reasons.

As one of your representatives on the Natural Resources Committee, I pledge to review these tribal regulations with a mind on land use, tribal priorities, and member benefits.

For those members with allotment lands, mineral leasing is not covered under this Act nor does this Act apply to the long-term leasing of allotment lands.

As always, I am thinking Potawatomi.

Lisa Kraft (Zibikwe)  
  
Oklahoma Tribal Legislator (District 11)

LKraft@Potawatomi.org  
  
Lisa@CopperBearConsulting.com

District 12 - Paul Schmidlkefer



Bozho Nikan,  
  
It’s been a busy few months for me. A little over a year ago we moved into town from our home that is well in the country. After living in town for the period of time, we have decided we really prefer the country life. So for the past few months, we have been remodeling our old home with the intentions of moving back. We started moving a couple weekends ago, but because of our schedules, we did not

finish. This weekend we finally were able to get enough of our belongings to move back in. I am thankful for my son and his friends who has done most of the heavy lifting. We still have a lot of little things, but we are getting there.

Life has a way of teaching us things. As a kid I was fortunate to be able to see so much of our country. Like many of you I was a service brat. My dad made a career out of the armed forces, first for one hitch in the Navy during WWII, then a long career

in the Air Force. We traveled quite a bit and got to experience a lot of different parts of the nation. When it got time for him to retire we ended up back in Pottawatomie County. We lived on a small farm just a few miles south of the tribal complex. It kind of got into my blood. So our experiment of living in town was just that. Back out to the less crowed country life for us.

I hope all is well with all our members. Remember that the tribe is yours and all we do is

for the future of it.  
  
I would like to close with congratulating Chairman Barrett with his re-election unopposed this term. I believe this is the first time for him.

As always it is both a pleasure and an honor to serve you and our great nation.

Bama pi,  
  
Paul Schmidlkofer

District 13 - Bobbi Bowden



Bozho Nikan (Hello, my friend)  
  
The New Year is now in full swing. I hope all of you are doing well with any “New Years Resolutions” you have made and continue to do so.  
  
This New Year is an exciting time for our tribe and our enterprises. Each time I go by the Grand Casino I am excited to see the progress of the hotel. The hotel will be opening in spring/summer of 2013. It will feature 262 suites a full service

spa, fitness center and outdoor pool. By the time festival is here we have high hopes that the hotel will be open and in full swing. I hope many of you make plans to visit the Grand during your visit during festival and have the same feeling of pride that I do when you witness our tribe’s progress.

Not only is The Grand a beautiful entertainment facility. The addition of the hotel and services will add nearly 100 new jobs to the area. The

management of the hotel and casino will be holding a job fair to fill these positions on April 4 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Embers inside the Grand Casino. Information on job openings can be found at [www.firelakejobs.com](http://www.firelakejobs.com). As you all know the addition of these jobs is much needed during these trying economic times. It warms my heart see all of the contributions made by the tribe to help our nation and the communities. This could not be done without the incredible

leadership our tribe is under.  
  
As always thank you for allowing me to serve you. If you ever have questions please feel free to contact me at [Bbowden@potawatomi.org](mailto:Bbowden@potawatomi.org)

Migwetch,  
  
Bobbi Bowden (Pesnequah)  
  
Legislative Representative, District 13

## What are you missing?--Your legislators need to hear from you!

Each month one or more of your elected CPN representatives asks that you send them your email address so they can get timely information out to you.

This month each of us sent out information on how to see if you are eligible for several thousand dollars resulting from the Cobell suit. The minimum award is \$1,000 per the group overseeing this; more than 400,000 Native Americans are eligible to receive part of this award.

In Texas, the Cherokee Nation Foundation has offered to come and host a meeting on how to secure scholarships. Some of them are worth up to \$250,000. An email was sent out seeking interest and we had only four replies. The Cherokee National Foundation can’t justify travelling so far for so few CPN members. Ironically, I do know that in one college alone here in Texas we have at least 12 students taking advantage of scholarships.

You have elected us to represent and assist you. We need your help!


In order to do what you elected us to do, we need to be able to reach you!

Please send your elected representative your email address ASAP if you are not getting email from them currently.

Migwetch!

Bob Whistler – District 3 Representative

Re-Elect  
Theresa Adame  
District #4 Legislator



I am running for my third term as the Kansas Legislator.

I appreciate every vote and ask for you continued support.

I am proud of my voting record and will continue working for you.

JON BOURSAW, Wetase Mkoh  
*Bourassa/Ogee*

CANDIDATE FOR DISTRICT 4  
LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE


PROVEN LEADER  
Retired US Air Force Colonel with over 24 yrs service

EXCEPTIONAL MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE  
Senior Positions in Major Corporations-11 yrs  
Senior Positions with Native American Tribes-9 yrs

ACTIVE CPN MEMBER  
Given numerous presentations on the History of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and our Economic Development

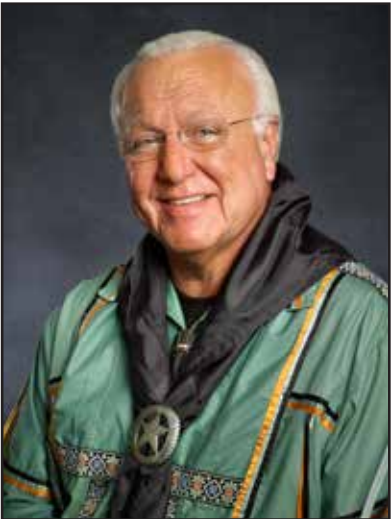
PROUD VETERAN  
One of the founding members of CPN Veterans Org  
and an active member of CPN Color Guard

I AM READY AND PREPARED TO SERVE THE  
CITIZEN POTAWATOMI MEMBERS OF DISTRICT FOUR





Chairman - John "Rocky" Barrett



Bozho, Nikan ( Hello, My Friends),

Since the last HowNiKan came out we held an Area Gathering meeting in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, near Pensacola in the Florida panhandle. It was well attended and the meeting place, part of the Hurlburt Field Air Force Base complex is fantastic. It sits on a beautiful stretch of beach overlooking Santa Rosa Island. We also had a naming ceremony after the meeting for Josh Pyeatt, now Wamego (Thunderbird) at a prayer circle - set up by his father Tim Pyeatt, Gomokno (Flies Like an Eagle) out on the beach under some huge trees. It was one of the prettiest places I have ever seen for a ceremony - bright sunshine and cool breezes off the Gulf.

It made me forget about the snow at home for a while. We went to a great seafood place afterwards. These events are as good as it gets for me. I really enjoyed myself.

The Area Meetings have been a lot of fun this year and we are back into the kind of event that features a lot of history, some tribal business, and more and more about family. We continue to honor our eldest and wisest member in attendance, our youngest enrolled member at the meeting, and the person who traveled the furthest to come to the meeting. As we have in the past, candidates for Tribal office are allowed at least ½ hour to present their views. This meeting featured a conversation with the Tribal Legislator for District 2, Eva Marie Carney (Ogindiskwe – Blue Bird Woman), also a Washington, D.C. lawyer who discussed some new art and cultural events she is having in the District. Her opponent, Anthony Cole, also spoke, suggesting a replacement of the District office concept by using the office rent for more District meetings. Anthony Cole (Kokotni – Alligator) is an Information Technology business owner and does marketing for Las Vegas gaming and hospitality clients.

We had a good meal together and Vice Chairman Linda Capps (Segenakkwe – Black Bird Woman) discussed the benefits available to all of our members no matter where they live, and helped gather family information for Tribal Rolls and the Heritage Center. It has never failed that someone in attendance will meet a cousin that they did not know they had. It is an old time family reunion, a tribal government meeting, and a genealogy information swap all rolled into one.

It is always interesting to note how many people who come to the meetings are surprised about our regular presentation about “blood degree” and “per capita payments.” Both of these things are bad inventions of the federal government designed to take away the obligations the United States made to us in the Treaty of 1861, which created the Citizen Potawatomi as a separate Nation, and the Treaty of 1867 that allowed us to buy the reservation in Oklahoma. They were a hurtful trick on us then and remain so today.

“Blood degree” was invented to encourage tribes to restrict their membership or marry only within the tribe. That is why we do not recognize it. Per Capita was designed to deny tribal

governments, as the original aboriginal “owners” of the land, from exercising the economic power of the intact land payment. Both of these policies violate our traditions and history. Even in ancient times, we did not cut up each animal brought in from a hunt into exact pieces for each resident of the village. We gave it to those who needed it most first.

We are receiving many letters about retirement homes for those who are not low income but want to move live here, most particularly next to FireLake Golf Course with the Casino, tribal health facilities, stores, and other services. Living on trust land, one would have no state income taxes. We are preparing a plan to include some very nice condominiums on the 18 acres on the Southwest corner of the golf course, next to #14 and # 7 fairways. If sufficient interest is shown by our members, we will submit it to the Tribal Legislature for consideration. The new federal legislation on tribal management of trust land will allow leasehold mortgage financing, a vital feature we did not have in the past.

Our construction projects on the Arena at FireLake, the RV Park/Festival grounds, the geothermal heating and

cooling retrofit of FireLake Entertainment Center, and the new streets are progressing well. I hope you will all be pleased at the improvements in the Festival grounds in June. I am so very proud of and grateful to our employees here at the Nation. Our businesses continue to show profits due to reduction of expenses and attention to service to our customers.

Thank you for the honor of serving as Tribal Chairman. I ask for your votes in the coming election for the candidates in both the District 2 and District 4 elections. I want to thank the hundreds of people who have asked to help in the election and request that you all encourage your family to vote, and act to be sure that they do.

Migwetch, (Thank you)

Vice Chairman - Linda Capps



Robert Coulter, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Supreme Court Associate Justice, visited Chairman Barrett and me at our Nation’s headquarters on January 23. It is always a pleasure to have any of our justices visit the Nation. It is not a frequent occasion; however, since all seven justices with the exception of one live outside of the Shawnee area and four live outside of the State of Oklahoma. Robert Coulter is from Helena, Montana, which is a logical reason why most of his visits to our Nation are court-related; although, he does travel to the area every few years since he and his siblings own land near Wanette, Oklahoma. He has also been to the festival in the past.

I am pleased and honored that Robert Coulter reminded me of the fact that he is known as “Tim” to all of his relatives and friends. An attorney with the Indian Law Resource Center headquartered in Washington D.C., Tim holds the prestigious position of Executive Director. His office is in Helena, Montana

where several Indian Law Resource Center staff members are housed.

This important and distinguished gentleman is one of the most kind-hearted and personable tribal members one would ever meet. His heritage family is Bourassa and he is, indeed, a proud Citizen Potawatomi! He has spent a good portion of his adult life working on Indian law issues. The Indian Law Resource Center promotes justice for indigenous peoples and champions removal of legal barriers that impede tribal development and self-governance.

In fact, the right of indigenous peoples is the very reason for Tim Coulter’s visit to our Nation. The indigenous rights issue received a huge boost when President Barack Obama announced the United States’ support for the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2010. Many tribal leaders across the United States believe that because of President Obama’s commitment, Native nations now have the opportunity to use the UN Declaration as a basis to promote more favorable federal Indian policies. Favorable policies, hopefully, mean that self-determination, economic development, and resource management would be more fully recognized by the federal government.

The concept of rights of indigenous peoples is not new to the CPN. Chairman Barrett was a delegate to the United Nations Conference on the Rights of

Indigenous People in Geneva, Switzerland in 2002. During the conference, the Chairman spoke on behalf of all Native Americans; an accomplishment for which Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members should be proud. Of course, Tim Coulter knows that our Nation supports his passion to serve indigenous people. His visit was to incorporate our Nation’s assistance for the upcoming 2014 World Conference on Indigenous People to be held on September 22-23 in New York at the United Nations Headquarters.

My gratitude goes out to Tim Coulter for his sincere dedication to the promotion of

justice for Native Americans and all indigenous peoples. Tim has written countless articles and presented equally as many lectures on the topic. An excerpt from one of his writings especially touches home. “International monitoring and oversight are especially needed to guard against fraud, misdealing, and legal manipulation to deprive indigenous peoples of their lands and natural resources. Without strong and effective measures at the international level, the promise of the UN Declaration will be lost.”

We will be hearing more on this topic in the months to come as Tim Coulter works with

the CPN to help us be more effective in our endeavor to assist with this important issue. A first step will be an outreach to area tribal leaders in an effort to make them more aware of the topic at hand.

I continue to cherish the opportunity to serve as your Vice Chairman.

Migwetch,

Linda Capps





***Dorothea M. Douglas***

September 30, 1932 - December 23, 2012

Dorothea (Dottie) Douglas of North Little Rock/Plano, Texas departed this life to be with her Heavenly Father on December 23, 2012.

Dorothea was born in Redwing, Kansas, September 30, 1932 to Fredonna and Luther Clift. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jay R. Douglas, III, her son, Jay R. Douglas, IV, father, Luther V. Clift and her mother, Fredonna Clift.

Dorothea was a member of Levy Baptist Church, NLR, Arkansas.

She is survived by Melinda Moore, her daughter and her husband, Donald Moore, a daughter-in-law, Dean Douglas, a brother, Robert Clift and his wife Jan, five grandchildren, Kyle, Eric, Jay V, Keagan and Mason, one niece, Patricia, and four nephews, Robert, David, Tim and Michael.

Funeral services will be held at Roller-Owens Funeral Chapel, 5509 John F. Kennedy Blvd. North Little Rock, AR 72116 (501-791-7400) Thursday, December 27 at 11:00 am. Visitation will be Wednesday, December 26 at 6:00-8:00 pm.

Interment Osawatomie Cemetery, Osawatomie, Kansas at 2:00 p.m., Friday, December 28, 2012. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Levy Baptist Church, 3501 Pike Avenue, North Little Rock, AR 72118.

***Emery A. Bradford***

(August 8, 1945 - December 27, 2012)

Emery A. Bradford, 67, of Topeka passed away Thursday December 27, 2012 at Horton Community Hospital.

He was born August 8, 1945 in Mayetta, Kansas the son of James M. and Josephine M. (Lewis) Bradford. Emery enlisted with the United States Army and proudly served his country. He was a member of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Nation.

He is survived by several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by both of his parents, his sisters, Agnes Levere and Clarice Johnson and his brothers, Andrew Bradford and Arthur Levere. Graveside funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 2, 2013 in Shipshee Cemetery with military burial honors by We-ta-se Post 410.



***Helen Lois Pope***

...1920-2012

Helen Lois Pope (nee Gilbert) departed this life December 20, 2012, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She was born December 27, 1920, in Tecumseh, Oklahoma, to William Wesley Gilbert, a descendant of the ‘ Bourassa family and a recipient of the January 19, 1892, Potawatomi land allotments, and Lucille Lee Gilbert (nee McCall). Helen had also received her Potawatomi name, Gishgate, meaning "Light in the Sky." Helen was third of five daughters born to William Wesley and Lucille Lee Gilbert. She was educated in Tecumseh where she attended the now closed Barton School and then attended East Central University where she pledged both a sorority and a fraternity. After graduation she briefly taught school in the tradition of her father and several sisters and then began an employment career with The State of Oklahoma ending with her retirement from the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission where she met her husband, Albert Perry Pope. She was a long time member of Saint Luke's Methodist Church in Oklahoma City where she was actively involved in leading both Sunday school and Bible study classes. She was preceded in death by her mother and father, her husband, Al, and sisters Rose Marian Wilson of Longview, Texas, Ruth Elaine Seaton of Houston, Texas, and Barbara Louise Poole of Houston, Texas. She

is survived by her oldest sister, Willie Lee Scott of Norman, Oklahoma, and by nine nieces and nephews and their children. Although she had no children of her own she will be remembered by her survivors for her maternal advice and counsel. She and her sisters will also be remembered for their devotion to family and their legacy of regular Gilbert Family gatherings including Christmas and Red Earth which will continue long after her death.



***James Edwin Crumbo***

09-03-43 --- 12-29-12

James Edwin Crumbo, 69, of Joplin, Mo, walked on into the sunset and to the promised land December 29, 2012 from complications after surgery.

A memorial and celebration of his life was held January 3, 2013 for friends and family at the home of Tammy and Jay Halford.

James was born September 3, 1943 in Sand Springs, Oklahoma, the sixth child of Edward and Bertha Crumbo. He went to school at Charles Page High School in Sand Springs. He married Juanita Grimes Jan.21, 1972 in Sand Springs, Oklahoma. He worked at Porcelain Steel in Sand Springs for a great number of years before moving to Tulsa and was self-employed in custodial and building maintenance. For several years he was employed by SAMCO Company in Chelsea and retired from there.

James was an exceptional Boy Scout and was awarded numerous merit badges and honors. He was a big fan of Elvis Presley and music in general. He enjoyed collecting an impressive array of U.S. Army Division Patches. He was interested in art and painted several Native American and Western landscape works in watercolor. He loved to fish, hunt and did his share of raising chickens and ducks and a few goats. His love of football was for Oklahoma Sooners and Sand Springs Sandites. But the real love of his life was his family. He spent many hours looking up the genealogy and gathering information on his family.

James was preceded in death by parents Edward and Bertha Crumbo, sisters, Betty Hillstead, Mert Short and brother Carl Crumbo.

James is survived by wife Juanita (Nita) of the home. Children, Nakia Crumbo of Joplin, Mo., Chris Crumbo and wife Shana of Claremore, Ok. and Amber Crumbo-Pagan and husband Gil of Joplin. Brother, Donald Crumbo and wife Carol of Skiatook, Ok. Sisters, Isabel Gravitt of Broken Arrow, Ok., Norma Bright and husband Paul of Mcloud, Ok., Mary Carter of Moore, Ok, and Carol Cox of Midwest City, Ok.

James and Juanita have eight grandchildren, Trinity, Mackenna, Crystal, Brian, Rachel, Shane, Airua and Joshua. These were the apple of his eye. He was with Joshua when the tornado tore through Joplin destroying their home, cars and almost taking their lives as they dove into the floor board of their car, he protecting Joshua and Nakia protecting James. When it was past, the house was gone and a board was jammed into the back window of the car where Joshua would have been in his car seat.

His family loves their "Pops". He will be forever missed and loved by all. And we are sure there is plenty of Red Boy Mustard in heaven.



***Dr. Johnny P. Flynn***

1951-2012

It is with a heavy heart that I announce the following on behalf of the Department of Religious Studies and the American Indian Programs in the IU School of Liberal Arts:

Dr. Johnny P. Flynn, 61, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies and Director of American Indian Programs at IUPUI, died on November 29, 2012, after a long illness. A beloved teacher whose "Introduction to Religion" and "American Indian Religions" classes were favorites among IUPUI students, Professor Flynn was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma. A longtime activist in American Indian affairs, Professor Flynn received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. from the University of California at Santa Barbara. He previously taught at Northern Arizona University and Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma, before coming to IUPUI as a lecturer in 2004. He was appointed Assistant Professor and Director of Indian Programs in 2008. A highlight of his directorship was the alliance he built with the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, the only tribe with federal recognition in Indiana. The agreement, in which the Pokagon Band provided a grant for staff support in return for continued development of Native American education on campus, was signed by IUPUI Chancellor Charles Bantz and Pokagon Tribal Chairman Matthew Wesaw in a special ceremony on November 18, 2010. Professor Flynn was a public scholar who contributed frequently to the online magazine Religion Dispatches. His other publications included "Something in the Wind: Spiritual Renewal in the American Indian Movement," in Time It Was: American Stories from the Sixties, edited by Karen Manners Smith and Tim Koster (Pearson, 2008), and "Purgatory and the Powerful Dead: A Case Study of Native American Repatriation," co-authored with Gary Laderman, in Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation, vol. 4 (Winter 1994). In 2007, he received the Advisor of the Year Award from IUPUI Undergraduate Student Government for his work with the Native American Student Alliance. The funeral will be private for family.

Friends gathered in January at the American Indian Center, in Indianapolis, to celebrate the life of Dr. Johnny P. Flynn 61, assistant professor of Religious Studies and Director of American Indian Programs at the University of Indiana. Johnny passed away on November 29, 2012 after a long illness. A traditional memorial service was held on December 15, 2012 on The Hill, near St. Louis, Oklahoma. His ashes were later scattered, in a private ceremony, at Point Conception, California.

A member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma, thunder clan; he was a longtime activist in American Indian affairs. He became active in AIM when attending Haskell Indian School in the 70's and he was a supplies carrier at Wounded Knee in 1973. In 1978 Johnny, his mother Mildred Flynn and many members of the Chumash Tribe of California participated in the occupation of sacred Chumash lands at Point Conception trying to save it from development by a liquified natural gas company. Johnny's organizational skills and public speaking talents were key components in saving the land (Kalike, the Western Gate).

Johnny was born at Saint Rose Hospital in Great Bend, Kansas, September, 13, 1951; he grew up in Ellinwood, Kansas and moved to Oxnard, California with his family in 1974. He was a member of the Bruno family; his grandparents were Johnnie Baptist and Beatrice Casteel Bruno; his great grandparents were Mose and Francis Shopwetuck Bruno.

Johnny was predeceased by his wife Leann Miller Flynn and his parents Mildred Celeste Pishmoqua Bruno Flynn and Stanley Frederick Flynn. He is survived by his children, Maria Celest Mimiqua Flynn and Samuel Shipjetuck Lewis Flynn of Santa

Barbara, California, two brothers Mike of South Dakota and Wesley of Jerome, AZ, and one sister Celesta Moody of Moline, Ill. and many beloved aunts, uncles and cousins. Johnny was a character, a storyteller

and a coyote.



***Patrick Damon Downing***

(March 10, 1949 - December 7, 2012)

Patrick Damon Downing, 63 of Shady Shores, unexpectedly passed away on December 7, 2012 at Denton Regional Medical Center. Damon was born May 10, 1949 in Shawnee, Oklahoma to Leon and Avis (Brant) Downing. Damon was an accomplished musician, director, composer, teacher, stage actor, and entrepreneur. He was a musical accompanist at many local churches, and loved to show his faith through his amazing musical talents. In life Damon most enjoyed good conversation and laughs with family and friends. He loved gardening, composing music, writing, reading, and travelling. Damon unconditionally loved and was generous with whatever he had to give. He had a wonderful sense of humor and always believed in the good in people. Damon was a loving father, grandfather, partner, and friend. Mr. Downing is survived by daughter Danielle Brooks and her husband Trey Brooks of Lewisville, daughter Dominique Barnhouse of Lewisville, son Patrick Downing and his wife Kacey Downing of Denton, Partner, Mark Gonzales of Shady Shores, sisters Deborah Jester of Madill, OK Genilee Taylor of Sallisaw, OK, brothers, Tim Downing of Fort Garland, Colorado and Brian Downing of Springfield, MO. He also had two Grandchildren, Luke Downing and Allison Brooks. He is preceded in death by his father Leon Downing, mother Avis (Brant) Downing, and brother Michael Downing. A visitation will be held on Tuesday, December 11,2012 from 1 P.M. until 3 P.M. and a funeral service at 3 P.M. in the chapel of Mulkey-Mason, Jack Schmitz and Son Funeral Home, 705 N. Locust, Denton, TX Burial follow. On line condolences may be left at www.mulkeymasondenton.com



***Raymon Anthony Wamego Sr.***

Raymond Anthony Wamego Sr., age 83 of Pawhuska, Oklahoma passed away on November 21, 2012 at Hillcrest Hospital in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Raymond was born on June 13, 1929 in Pawhuska, Oklahoma to Harry and Charlotte (Bruno) Wamego. He was a proud member of the Citizen Pottawatomie Nation and loved listening and being around the drums. For 25 years he cooked for the Osage people. He was a life-long Pawhuska resident. He was a member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. He proudly was a tank driver at WestPoint, New York in the United States Army for 8 years, receiving a medal for good conduct. Raymond married Margaret Louise Dildine September 21, 1955 in Pawhuska and had 38 wonderful years together. He worked as a gas attendant for the Texaco Station and as a roustabout for many years. He was a member of the Pawhuska Round-up Club alongside his father-in-law, Gilbert Dildine and brother-in-law Gil Dildine. He was a member of the American Legion Post 198 for many years. He loved to laugh and tease everyone he knew, also he enjoyed countless hours visiting with old friends at the local grocery store. His hobbies were calling bingo and

watching his grandchildren playing sports. Raymond was a proud supporter of the Pawhuska Huskies.

Raymond and Margaret had four children: Chief Wamego and wife Marsha of Pawhuska, Oklahoma, Raelene Neighbors and husband Don of Stillwater, Oklahoma, Rebecca Stingley and husband Bobby of Ponca City, Oklahoma and Raechelle Cass and husband Sammy of Pawhuska, Oklahoma. Ten grandchildren: Ethan, Kaylee, Amanda, Maggie, Stephanie, Dawn, Robert, Samantha, Jacob and Nicholas. Six great grandchildren: Megan, George, Katzy, Bristol, Raylinah and Hunter. One brother: Paul Wamego, one sister: Genevine Smith and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Charlotte and Harry Wamego, his wife: Margaret in 1992, one sister: Gladys McCuine and five brothers: Tommy Jo Wamego, Jo Boy Lohah, Standley Pail Wamego, Joesph Wamego, and William O. Wamego.

Raymond’s Rosary was Monday, November 26, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Indian Camp Chapel. Funeral Services Tuesday, November 27, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Pawhuska, with Father Chris Diagle officiating. Casket Bearers were Jacob Green, Ethan Wamego, Dawn Neighbors, Bill Green, William Olchefski, Joe Cheshewalla and Honorary, Rusty Cheshewalla and Jeff Murphy.

His nephew, William Wamego Jr., performed a pipe ceremony to start the day. We were all smoked with cedar. After graveside services he held a Potawatomi tobacco ceremony. Shortly after an eagle was spotted over the graveside flying low at first then circled higher and higher before flying to the west.



***Rose Martin Wilson***

1920-2012

Rose Marian Wilson (nee Gilbert) departed this life July 17 2012, in Longview, Texas. She was born August 27, 1918, in Tecumseh, Oklahoma, to William Wesley Gilbert, a descendant of the Bourassa family and a recipient of the January 19, 1892, Potawatomi land allotments, and Lucille Lee Gilbert (nee McCall). Marian was second of five daughters born to William Wesley and Lucille Lee Gilbert. She was educated in Tecumseh, Oklahoma. She attended the now closed Barton School and graduated as the Tecumseh High School Class of '36 valedictorian where she received legendary status for climbing the water tower with senior flag in hand while the senior boys argued amongst themselves as to who should have that distinction. She then attended East Central University where she pledged the Kappa Sigma Sorority. After graduation she began a teaching career in the tradition of her father and her oldest sister eventually retiring from the Longview, Texas, schools as a special education teacher. She was also a charter member of Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church in Longview where she served as an Elder and a Deacon. She was preceded in death by her mother and father and sisters Ruth Elaine Seaton of Houston, Texas, and Barbara Louise Poole of Houston, Texas. She is survived by her husband of 65 years, David Albert Wilson of Longview, Texas, sisters Willie Lee Scott of Norman, Oklahoma, and Helen Pope of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, daughters Susan Elms of Longview, Texas, and Barbara Burke of Hudson, New Hampshire, grandson Brandon Elms of Aledo, Texas, granddaughter Allyson Petta of Keller, Texas, and three great grandchildren. Affectionately known as “The Queen” she will be remembered for her organizational and decision making skills. She and her sisters will also be remembered for their devotion to family and their legacy of regular Gilbert Family gatherings including Christmas and Red Earth which will continue long after her death.